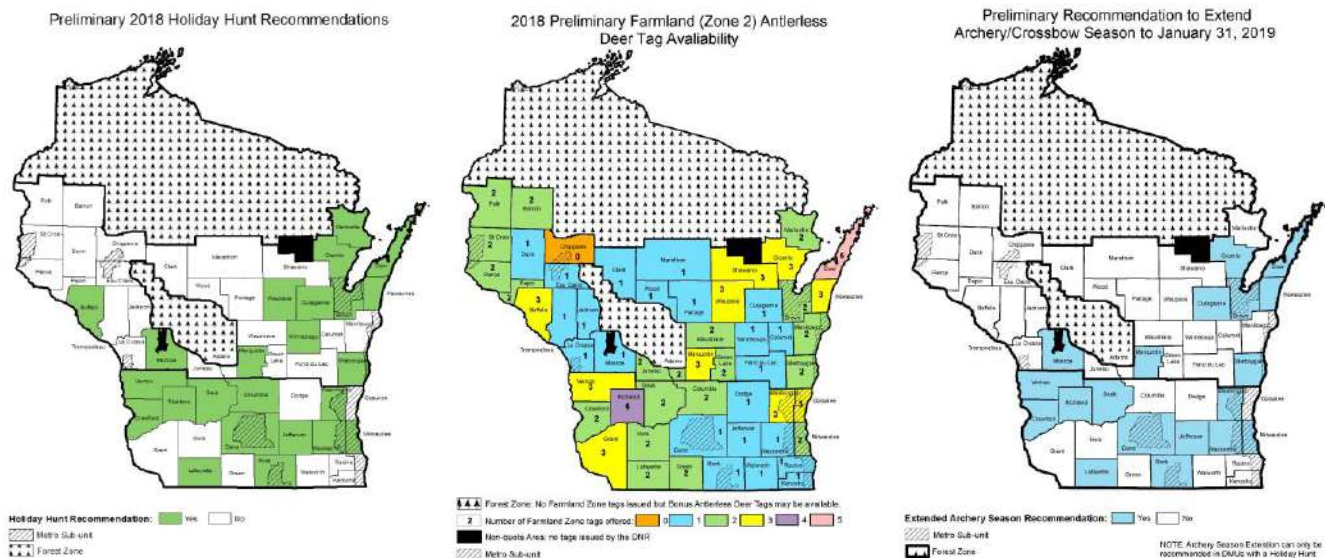




County Deer Advisory Council

Online Public Input

Spring 2018



The comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Overall Summary

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

7527 forms were submitted.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen the unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 3678
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 1344
I hunt in this unit: 6504
General interest in this unit: 1370

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In the DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 6036
Bow: 3950
Crossbow: 2486
Muzzleloader: 2469

3. How many years have you hunted deer in the unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 23.8
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in the unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 3236
Mostly Private Land: 1023
Public and Private Land About Equally: 857
Mostly Public Land: 510
Exclusively Public Land: 839
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 39

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in the deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 327
Not too crowded: 840
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 725
Somewhat crowded: 644
Very crowded: 589
Not applicable: 104

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in the DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 1191
Fewer: 1950
Same: 2607
More: 1225
Many More: 407
Unsure: 147

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in the unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	346	756	2557	1856	1831	151



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for the unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	248	556	2511	1977	1907	298
Bonus Tags - Public land:	342	668	2470	1609	1921	487
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	64	126	467	76	32	256
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	60	122	457	84	36	262

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in the unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	493	2228	1741	91
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	194	528	85	214

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	1443	2817	293
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	2082	2148	300
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	699	5074	362
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	1395	1331	218

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for the unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.65
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.31
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.57
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.22
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.28
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.35
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.51
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.00
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.42



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

3009 forms were submitted.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen the unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 1640
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 441
I hunt in this unit: 2550
General interest in this unit: 534

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In the DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 2360
Bow: 1577
Crossbow: 1026
Muzzleloader: 1042

3. How many years have you hunted deer in the unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 23.14
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in the unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 1677
Mostly Private Land: 431
Public and Private Land About Equally: 210
Mostly Public Land: 75
Exclusively Public Land: 149
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 8

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in the deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 155
Not too crowded: 285
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 168
Somewhat crowded: 141
Very crowded: 66
Not applicable: 50

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in the DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 582
Fewer: 831
Same: 1055
More: 347
Many More: 124
Unsure: 70

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in the unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	119	283	1188	757	577	76



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for the unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	96	200	1168	817	599	120
Bonus Tags - Public land:	106	260	1222	618	523	271
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	20	49	195	44	16	98
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	20	51	183	47	19	102

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in the unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	257	1453	1201	59
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	55	214	68	85

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	874	1872	224
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	1337	1419	202
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	367	2419	181
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	11	19	0

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for the unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.50
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.88
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.39
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.61
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.23
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.41
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.43
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.45
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.86
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.43



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Central Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

518 forms were submitted.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen the unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 162
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 118
I hunt in this unit: 469
General interest in this unit: 90

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In the DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 449
Bow: 283
Crossbow: 183
Muzzleloader: 148

3. How many years have you hunted deer in the unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.8
Maximum: 62

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in the unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 164
Mostly Private Land: 86
Public and Private Land About Equally: 76
Mostly Public Land: 41
Exclusively Public Land: 100
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in the deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 18
Not too crowded: 81
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 79
Somewhat crowded: 58
Very crowded: 60
Not applicable: 7

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in the DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 85
Fewer: 151
Same: 156
More: 86
Many More: 32
Unsure: 8

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in the unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	45	66	161	106	133	5



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for the unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	34	65	150	112	141	14
Bonus Tags - Public land:	50	60	137	113	138	18
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	0	0	0	0	0	0

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in the unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	0	0	0	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	0	0	0	0

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	0	0	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	0	0	0
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	12	175	7
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	256	217	43

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for the unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.57
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.77
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.31
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.44
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.33
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.27
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.16
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.23
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.62
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.36
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.43



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

2477 forms were submitted.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen the unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 987
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 522
I hunt in this unit: 2213
General interest in this unit: 445

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In the DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 2078
Bow: 1245
Crossbow: 827
Muzzleloader: 795

3. How many years have you hunted deer in the unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 25.83
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in the unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 591
Mostly Private Land: 312
Public and Private Land About Equally: 449
Mostly Public Land: 344
Exclusively Public Land: 499
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 18

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in the deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 74
Not too crowded: 330
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 382
Somewhat crowded: 376
Very crowded: 414
Not applicable: 28

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in the DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 287
Fewer: 531
Same: 835
More: 595
Many More: 187
Unsure: 42

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in the unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	96	220	612	597	915	31



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for the unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	76	167	570	621	941	96
Bonus Tags - Public land:	98	201	486	575	1042	69
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	8	9	98	29	12	81
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	7	7	95	33	14	81

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in the unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	30	39	2	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	33	130	5	69

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	12	55	6
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	28	33	11
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	152	1344	90
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	1128	1095	175

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for the unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

Average Rating

Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.09
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.76
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.18
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.49
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.24
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.20
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.10
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.26
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.64
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.37
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.44



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

1523 forms were submitted.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen the unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 889
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 263
I hunt in this unit: 1272
General interest in this unit: 301

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In the DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 1149
Bow: 845
Crossbow: 450
Muzzleloader: 484

3. How many years have you hunted deer in the unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 21.97
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in the unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 804
Mostly Private Land: 194
Public and Private Land About Equally: 122
Mostly Public Land: 50
Exclusively Public Land: 91
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 11

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in the deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 80
Not too crowded: 144
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 96
Somewhat crowded: 69
Very crowded: 49
Not applicable: 19

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in the DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 237
Fewer: 437
Same: 561
More: 197
Many More: 64
Unsure: 27

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in the unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	86	187	596	396	206	39



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for the unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	42	124	623	427	226	68
Bonus Tags - Public land:	88	147	625	303	218	129
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	36	68	174	3	4	77
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	33	64	179	4	3	79

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in the unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	206	736	538	30
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	106	184	12	60

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	557	890	63
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	717	696	87
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	168	1136	84
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	0	0	0

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for the unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.28
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.81
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.35
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.68
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.16
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.11
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.39
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.38
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.36
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.56
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.35



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Adams, Central Farmland

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38 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 14
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 35
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 33
Bow: 26
Crossbow: 11
Muzzleloader: 17

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 19.51
Maximum: 45

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 23
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 2
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 9
Fewer: 12
Same: 11
More: 5
Many More: 1
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	5	16	9	4	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	1	22	7	7	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	3	19	8	5	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	3	18	17	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	12	24	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	19	15	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	31	1
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.39
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.75
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.19
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.78
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.31
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.36
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.28
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.36
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.81
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.28



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Adams, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

14508 I am very upset that every year there is a t zone set and it is during the best time of bow season and it just completely wrecks the bow season for us serious hunters who spend a lot of time and money to hunt mature deer. I ask that t zone should be during the beginning of rifle season. I really don't understand why would our prime time bow season be sabotaged when we have our only vacation days during October and we have a lot of time and money invested in the October bow hunt. please I speak on behalf of over 1,000 hunters when I say please delay the t-zone until the beginning of rifle season or extend the rifle season for t-zone. Also please do not put the youth hunt in the October bow season, this is prime hunting season for us, it's bad enough that we have to deal with hunters/ land owners feeding and baiting deer on private land and it makes our hunting harder and when these guys kill their deer and head home and when things start to get goo for us on public land the youth hunt and t zone just push the deer in the private woods where they stay safe for the entire season and it makes it so hard to harvest a deer. Please listen to my words for they need to be heard and seen so some action can be taken and so that we hunters that invest time, money, vacation days, sweat and blood can enjoy hunting the way it should be. My name is Steven and I am an American worker for the city of Oak Creek and when I drive 150 minutes to hunt I expect to have a enjoyable time in our woods, and another thing is that as hard as it is to hunt public woods, last year our wood got 62% cut down and fallen trees were left all over and not only is the hunt harder but it's really dangerous to walk in and out of the woods now because we trip and fall a lot and we carry guns, bows and other dangerous equipment. Please stand up for us stand up for me stand up for your fellow comrade that will stand up and fight for you. Thank you and god speed. Semper fi

14509 Deer hunting in Adams county is absolutely terrible. I have 2 children who have been deer hunting for 8 years and neither one has seen a deer during the gun deer season. they have actually asked me what a deer looks like in the woods This is not acceptable. I do not know the reason why the DNR wants to limit the number of deer that we get to see in the woods. I sure hope this is not a conspiracy that is gonna come to light someday. The rule should be that you get one deer tag per year per hunter and harvest that animal anyway you want with that 1 deer tag then you are done hunting for the year. all public hunting land should be its own management unit so the dnr can control the deer hard on the management unit of public hunting land only. it is not fair that you mix public hunting land areas with private land areas to come to your deer quotas. Private land owners are not shooting the does on their property so they have large population of deer on the property. The deer do not leave the private property and go by the public hunting land. To get the deer population back to satisfy the hunters and people who enjoy looking at deer you should move to going to one tag per person per year. My kids no longer want to deer hunt. My dad and brother does not deer hunt anymore. One of my sons say there are only 10 kids in his sophomore class that deer hunt now. The dnr is in financial trouble. Bring back the deer and you will bring back the hunters.



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- 14510 I see a over abundance of deer overly comfortable grazing out in open fields as well as along roadsides. I believe that the high levels of population are unhealthy and unnatural, causing weakening and disease among the herd. The deer are seeming to become more nocturnal then ever, especially during hunting season. I believe that a strong healthy population of wolves in the area is critical. The wolves would help maintain a natural balance as well as make the deer less comfortable along the roadside's and open fields and less likely to herd up so heavily. The effects of the wolves would not only make the roads safer but cut down on crop and forestry loss. Wolves would also cause the deer to be less comfortable at night and cause them to move more during daylight. I believe that the positive effects of having the wolves greatly out way the negatives. Furthermore I also think the early-season hunts should be eliminated as they ruin the element of surprise for the deer on opening day, making for a much less exciting opening day!
- 14511 Based on my observations of living in this area and hunting a decent portion of both bow and gun season, the antlerless population seems to be unmanagaged and causing significant browse damage. I harvested a doe during the antlerless season so I see this season and the Holiday season as a great tool to encourage those of us that want to hunt hard for a buck during bow and 9-day gun season to help manage the population by harvesting a doe in the later seasons. I further believe there needs to be more innovative methods to encourage antlerless harvest such as more advertising for meat donation (such as Hunters for the Hungry) and perhaps subsidizing processing costs for these programs (for antlerless deer donated) either through license fees or elective options to support processing costs when purchasing licenses. Simply making more antlerless tags available is not motivation enough to get hunters to harvest more does.
- 14512 I strongly believe implementing a 4 point on at least one side rule should be considered for buck harvest. It will result in better age structure and increase quality of hunting. There will be greater opportunity for everyone to harvest mature deer. We always talk about achieving a healthier deer herd. The average age of a buck in my area is between 1 and 2. Thats not a healthy herd in my opinion. Minnesota has done it for years with great success. It will also bring more people from out of state to buy licenses if quality bucks are in abundance. Please consider it. Thanks
- 14513 I would love to see a 4pt rule meaning a buck would need at least 4pt on one side before you could legally harvest it. I would love to see this rule implemented for several reasons. I feel it would build a stronger herd by letting bucks mature more then better quality buck would get to do the majority of the breeding. Also people would shoot more doe to fill there meat needs which also helps the herd in my opinion. I hope this rule will be seriously considered and brought up in meetings.
- 14514 I hunt and observe the deer herd in the town of dell prairie southern adams county. I would say the deer herd maintains about the same for the last 3 years. I did see many more bucks than does this last year. I would definitely oppose a anterless only hunt. Keep everything the same and maintain the deer herd as it is for south of hwy 82.
- 14515 I would like to see an antler restriction put into place....4 on a side. Another option, I think youth hunt should be antlerless only. Earn-a-buck was also a good program to help keep the doe herd in population target.
- 14516 We see way fewer deer than years past and the cdac member that represents this area does not listen to what his neighbors tell him please reduce the tags and increase the population
- 14517 I believe in my opinion the rules on baiting and feeding should be re-looked at. There should be an allotted amount allowed either during season or up until season starts.
- 14518 Please stock Timberwolves to balance & control chronic wasting disease & other pathogens in our deer population. Also, please ban deer-feeding south of Highway 70.
- 14519 Reduce Tags can't even get pictures of deer on land with food cover and water area that was cut two years ago hasnt even been browsed on



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14520 Deer population has gone down in the last 5 years

14521 Need to increase the amount of deer in this unit

14522 A limited baiting would be better

18005



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Adams, Central Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

127 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 47
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 28
I hunt in this unit: 110
General interest in this unit: 29

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 105
Bow: 64
Crossbow: 61
Muzzleloader: 45

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 18.65
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 50
Mostly Private Land: 26
Public and Private Land About Equally: 14
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 15
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 22
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 11
Somewhat crowded: 11
Very crowded: 5
Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 35
Fewer: 43
Same: 32
More: 10
Many More: 5
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	5	6	43	37	36	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	6	38	44	34	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	12	36	34	35	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	119	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		55	56	16

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.57
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.74
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.46
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.47
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.41
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.28
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.28
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.27
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.84
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.41
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.42



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Adams, Central Forest

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- 14523 Since I started hunting this unit I have seen a population increase in antlerless deer. Antlered deer have been the same as far as numbers and age. I would like to see at least a one to two year antler restriction of some sort. Either 6 total points or 4 on one side so more bucks can reach maturity and equal out the buck to doe ratio. I also request that since the antlerless quota is 3 times the harvest that this dmu include a free antlerless with the license purchase for bow or crossbow. I've seen more deer in this dmu the last 2 years then I have when I hunt in adams central farmland. I would also advocate for minimal feeding of deer in the form of a mineral site, either in block or powder form for the months of Feb through sept. Another issue is I would love to open the archery season open the beginning of Sept like so many states do. We here in Wisconsin are traveling to those states to harvest a buck in velvet. I believe that if Wisconsin does this it will give us a lot more non resident license money! I have also seen absolutely no signs of cwd anywhere I've hunted in the farmland or forest zone of adams county. Thank you for looking at my input. Jeff Mather
- 14524 The landscape has changed a bit in my area(preston/Big flats) over the past 3-4 years with many large tracts of timber co land open to public being sold and turned into large farm fields. This has pushed more hunters and the deer onto the smaller tracts which greatly affects the dispersion and number of deer from year to year. Although there are pockets of good deer numbers on some tracts overall the number of deer sightings have trended down slightly for both bow and gun season. The highlight is that from my sightings the buck to doe ratio is ideal. There is not an overwhelming amount of does per buck sighting which promotes chasing during the rut and an overall balanced herd. I had an equal opportunity at both sexes but hours hunted was higher per sighting. I did purchase a doe tag this past season but I didn't see enough does to convince me I should harvest one eventhough I had legitimate clean shot opportunities to fill my tag.
- 14525 Our group of 4 is in our 5th year of ownership of 100 acres of wetland/woods. We harvested one buck this year, which was the only deer that any of us saw during the entire 9 day season. The number of deer on game cameras is down, deer sign is down, predator sign is up, and it's been a long, hard winter. I've personally hunted in Central Wisconsin for 25 years now, and deer numbers have taken a significant decline. I have young sons close to hunting age, but will have a hard time getting them interested without the prospect of seeing an animal. This is an epidemic that the DNR needs to address ASAP, or don't be surprised to see a large decline in deer hunters. Most of us would rather see 15 deer and harvest 0-1, instead of harvest the only 1-2 deer we see. A couple years of low or no antlerless limits would drastically help the herd.
- 14526 When over 8,000 antlerless tags are available for this area, why are we asked to "pay" for one?? Most areas provide a tag with license purchase. With the cost of a patron license, I believe we are already "paying for" an antlerless tag. If tags are going to be available for Adams central forest, they should be given to those who purchase a license. If there are not enough compared to number of applicants, preference points should be given to those that do not draw. These would get first choice the following year. Doesn't make sense that some hunters have to pay for antlerless while most in the state get a tag with license purchase. Also, while I am physically within the "central forest", my property area has very little "forest" and is mostly agriculture with large operations. Doesn't make sense.



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- 14527 Use to see deer on or passing thru our property nightly. Very seldom seen anymore. Often go weeks without a deer on camera. Did not see a single deer during the gun season and very little shooting in the area. I believe deer herd is being judged on deer numbers found in residential areas and not in rural areas where the actual hunting takes place. Example is the Rome lakes area where deer are often seen but hunt 5 miles down the road and you're lucky to see a deer. Didn't purchase a crossbow license or gun doe tag this last year due to the low numbers of deer seen. I would like to see doe tags suspended for 2yrs to bring the numbers back up.
- 14528 I have seen more wolves than deer over the past 5 years of hunting. We have gone from seeing 100 deer in a hunting season ten years ago to seeing less than five last year. The deer management in this state is a complete joke and the people that represent it should be embarrassed to even have a job. Look at the data over past ten years and explain to me how there has been no change. Everyone who owns land should get free taxes due to the incompetent workers that govern our deer population. The money wasted on wolves every year is a disgrace and does nothing positive for anything. Have a wonderful day.
- 14529 Predator numbers are high in the Central Forest Adams management unit for example wolf population is on the raise showing the ability to feed on the deer in the unit very efficiently and if their not in the area the coyotes are making their mark on the deer herd were I hunt, granted as a bow hunter the rule of thumb make a good shot and retrieve quickly and you wouldn't have a problem that a predator finding the deer before you do which doesn't even Thank You for a free meal. Solution, is to educate younger hunters the ability to become a successful predator hunter in this unit.
- 14530 I agree with the goal of maintaining the population in the Central Forest zone but apparently just making more antlerless tags available is not motivation to achieve the harvest quota or even sell out the tags. Suggest incentives for hunters to harvest more antlerless deer such as advertising and/or subsidizing the meat donation programs and local deer processors. Perhaps partnering with food pantries in the area. Need more innovative options to encourage harvesting closer to quota. I do not support punitive approaches such as earn-a-buck or antlerless only season.
- 14531 There are at least 5 different wolf packs in this unit there impact is not taken I to consideration. Deer numbers are very low in this area the success rate from the past several seasons shows that the deer population has been over estimated. Please reduce the tags so my grand kids can at least see a deer I hunt over 200 hundred acres and have 10 acres of corn and sow beans planted when your 5 acres of sow beans are not destroyed you know there are no deer thank you for your time
- 14532 I would like to see more deer per acre because young kids don't want to sit and see nothing while hunting. It's hard enough to get young kids into hunting and away from computers where they play for hours. Even I don't like sitting all day and only see a few deer and I sit on private land where everybody thinks there are more deer. Let the deer come back a little more and then have more antlerless quotas in the future. I think everyone thinks the same. Thanks
- 14533 Deer populations need to grow statewide, and the best way to do it is to limit all seasons to buck only for a few years. I was in the woods for roughly eight hours a day for the entire nine day gun hunt and did not see a single animal until Saturday on closing weekend. Growing up in the same area (twenty years ago) it was nothing to see fifty deer by lunch of opening day, now if you see a couple in an entire season we are supposed to happy?
- 14534 There are way too many antlerless deer in the area I own land near Arkdale. CWD has been found just a few miles north near HWY 21 and in order to keep it from spreading I would really like to see the antlerless deer harvest increase substantially. Also, landowners should be issues 2 free antlerless tags in order to control the numbers. Lets keep the disease at bay as long as possible and the only way to do so is drop the numbers.



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- 14535 I want my kids to see a deer 4 years 0 deer hunt all day opening weekend and from thanksgiving on I own 40 acres I try moving to other areas to find deer but it's the same story even on other private and public lands kids want to play on computer and not go hunting anymore dnr you have an issue you are loosing more hunters and you cant let anybody else hunt to cover up the lost hunters because now you have babies hunting
- 14536 It is long overdue for Wisconsin to consider placing an antler restriction on shooting bucks statewide. Pennsylvania has had a 4 point minimum on one side for years and have provided a better hunting experience offering the opportunity to shoot a bigger buck to everyone in their state. If we had a 4 point restriction here it would be a grand start to making Wisconsin the envy of the country to shoot a whitetail deer.
- 14537 Do whatever iowa is doing! Obviously they got it rite... raise are non resident tags so not every Joe Bob and Jim can jst come hunt are state cuz tags are dirt cheap, and shoot all the little deer... have a year where no doe harvest, and bucks 8 points or better. Do that for a year or 2, and Wisconsin will be big buck state again..thank you,
Wisconsin Hunter
- 14538 I saw 3 deer when hunting 12 days on our property. There has been a decreasing amount of deer sign on our property. The land owned is used strictly for hunting purposes. Many of the hunters in our group have started shooting any deer because we haven't taken more than 2 deer per year off of 320 acres in the last 5 years. 13 gun hunters, 4 of which also bow hunt.
- 14539 How about getting rid of private and public tags. It is very annoying when your land (a few acres) is butting public land. For addressing which land you killed deer is to much of a grey area. Why can't you ask when registering a deer public or private. Any person like me, you need to purchase numerous tags to make sure you are legal when shooting a deer.
- 14540 What is a deer been so long since I saw one at least public land isn't crowded anymore good thing you have a new golf course to bring in tourist dollars because hunters are leaving thought it was gonna get crowded with all the public land becoming potato fields and golf courses but you guys cured it by getting rid of all the deer so the hunters left
- 14541 Thank you for the questionnaire. We are starting to see some deer numbers come back. We would like to allow the herd to regenerate more before raising the antlerless quota. Too many neighbors shooting anything that moves. It continues to cause problems for the herd to get back to regular numbers. Allowing hunting of predators would be very helpful.
- 14542 I am against any antlerless tags until the deer population recovers. I have seen way to many wolves on my property and zero deer. They are wiping out the deer in Adams County. Since the federal government will not let us shoot them we need to help the deer population all we can. Zero antlerless tags, period.
- 14543 I wish they would stop calling out crossbow hunters. they make it sound so easy. I shot more deer with my compound bow then I have with my crossbow. just cannot pull compound back anymore. I am 75 years old and hunted my whole life and want to continue as long as I am able to. leave the crossbow rules alone.
- 14544 Decrease the tags can't even get my kid to hunt anymore you can't take a big enough bag of snacks or thermos of hot chocolate to keep her occupied when you hunt open I ing weekend and don't see a deer used to see 20 a day years ago moved here few years ago for the hunting and see less deer every year
- 14545 This portion of Adams county needs to be Central farmland. How it was ever designated Central Forest is incomprehensible. Irrigated lands and farm productive lands as far as the eye can see. Please rename this portion of Adams county hunting land accurately. Thanks.
- 14546 with a success rate of around 17% for public land bonus tags I do not believe the deer population on public lands is high enough to warrant the harvest of many does. A solution needs to be found for the exploding wolf population to see any real growth in the deer herd.



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- 14547 This unit has been shot out over the years I have seen, while hunting, in the last 3 years, 4 deer on public land. Entirely too low and most I spoke with this last year had zero hope of harvesting a deer. It has now been 5 years since our group of 5 has taken a deer.
- 14548 Deer population has gone down in the last 5 years public land pressure is no longer an issue because no one sees any deer so they hunt other places wolf tracks everywhere farmers complain about crop damage but post their land which is ok but then don't complain
- 14549 I think that Adams county should not be in the Central Forest zone, there is a lot of ag. fields south of Rome to justify not being a Forest zone. I will not shoot an antlerless deer, because I do not think I should have to pay another \$12 to shoot a doe.
- 14550 Hunt the Colburn don't see any deer anymore lots of wolf sign large farmers in the area influence the deer by dumping semi loads of waste potatoes on their private land and then hunting over it and bragging about how many deer they see makes me sick
- 14552 Been at this a long time 46 years now, population, especially on public, still low, though it's also at that; best take a few steps, on the private I hunt it's fairly balanced, I run cameras year round and looks to be 1 adult buck to 2~3 ADULT doe
- 14551 Knowing that deer dispersal across the unit is very sparse in some spots and more in others I believe that 35 deer per square mile is a low number and should be increased due to the higher predator numbers of coyotes and wolves in this unit area
- 14553 I was very disturbed about ATV access on State land (Quincy area) disabled are using ATVs to transport many non-disabled miles in to make deer drives and disabled not appearing disabled. I walk miles in to avoid this. I believe it's being abused!
- 14554 I feel the quotas proposed are adequate, I don't like the idea of sharpshooters on private lands as mentioned in discussions. I feel that activity will tend to pit people against one another and antagonize people not seeing deer.
- 14556 I consider the population strong from what I see on my land. And note the damage to new trees trying to sprout on my property off HWY Q Dell Prairie. Think you should have to take a doe before you can shoot a buck.
- 14555 Too many tags being issued land owners will not buy them because there are no deer 6 hunters on 160 with an field saw 4 deer altogether went home Wednesday 214 hours hunted 4 deer deer population is estimated to high
- 14557 I hope that CWD concerns be at the forefront of the Council's decisions. This is a long battle ahead of us, let's do what we can now - so that we don't regret NOT having done more in the future looking back.
- 14558 Wolves wolves wolves way too many at least 7 packs north of county j reduce the tags hunters do not see any deer now quit issuing tags hunters are already not using them population is over estimated
- 14559 Deer numbers have been steadily decline in my Adams central forest area for nearly 10 years driving 2 of my sons away from the sport. I myself am close to quitting if the herd doesn't rebound soon.
- 14560 There are too many deer in this unit and I am concerned with CWD. The positive test results have increased over the past few years and will continue to increase if something is not done.
- 14561 Do away with the AG tag program It is widely abused and not needed if landowners would allow sufficient hunter access. This should be clear to everyone by now!
- 14562 I don't believe farmers should be able to slaughter so many deer without taking into consideration the fact that their neighbors are not seeing as many deer.
- 14563 Deer population is over estimated let's increase the population success rate is way down lots of people don't even see a deer opening day lots of wolves



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- 14564 If deer numbers continue to decline I may eventually choose to give up the sport...especially if crossbow seasons would be changed.
- 14565 Way too many deer across all the townships in Adams County. The habitat can't support the over population that is going on.
- 14566 How does a deer know if it is on private land or public? The antlerless tag numbers are very high and need to be reduced!
- 14567 I will hunt one more year if deer population stays where it is license sales will go down by one more less tags more deer
- 14568 After reading discussion section, wondering if deer farms are a concern as far as the cwd issues in this area.
- 14569 Reduce the tags are group could have only shot 3 deer all gun season and we stay in the woods and hunt
- 14570 Should not issue any tags for 3 years to get the population where the dnr thinks it is
- 14571 very few deer on public land; need to lower the anterless deer tags on public land
- 14572 Reduce the wolf population, and allow baiting to compete with cropland areas.
- 14573 I would like to keep the crossbow regulations as they are currently
- 14574 Increase the population it is to low to many wolves to many tags
- 14575 No deer north of highway 21 reduce tag numbers for next 3 years
- 14576 Increase minimum antler for a buck to forked buck or bigger
- 14577 Must have a seperate and limited season for cross bow.
- 14578 Please reduce the quota we are issuing to many tags
- 14579 Please step up enforcement of poaching
- 14580 Seeing alot less deer year after year
- 14581 Do not change the crossbow season
- 14582 More deer less wolves
- 14583 To many tags
- 18006



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Ashland, Madeline Island

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8 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 2
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 1
I hunt in this unit: 7
General interest in this unit: 0

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 7
Bow: 4
Crossbow: 0
Muzzleloader: 0

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 12
Average: 34.57
Maximum: 49

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 0
Mostly Private Land: 0
Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 0
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 0
Fewer: 0
Same: 5
More: 1
Many More: 2
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	1	3	1	3	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	0	4	1	3	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	0	4	1	3	0

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	0	8	0
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	2	5	1

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.62
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.38
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	1.75
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	1.88
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	4.00
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.75
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.25
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	1.38
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.12
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.62
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.12



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Ashland, Madeline Island

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14584 if we use the % of increase the wdnr says the deer herd would increase each year even with doe tags to our elk herd from the day it started we would have a much larger elk herd. Our elk herd has proven that the %'s and formula the wdnr uses to estimate increases in the deer herd is inaccurate. Where are the Matures Bucks ??????

14585 THE ISLAND IS UNIQUE, THEY WANT TO SEE DEER YEAR ROUND, MORE FOR TOURISM THAN HUNTING, HECK THE TOWN EVEN FEEDS THEM ALL WINTER (MORE THAN 2 GALLONS AT A TIME)

14586 There's more to deer hunting then just killing does for numbers. Where's the bucks? ??,,???

14587 The worst thing the wdnr did was get rid of the management units in ashland co.

18007



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Ashland, Northern Forest

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101 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 41
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 22
I hunt in this unit: 84
General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 82
Bow: 59
Crossbow: 30
Muzzleloader: 33

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 25.69
Maximum: 65

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 20
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 25
Mostly Public Land: 11
Exclusively Public Land: 19
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 7
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 22
Somewhat crowded: 16
Very crowded: 18
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 9
Fewer: 19
Same: 38
More: 26
Many More: 8
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	10	12	17	58	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	6	12	21	58	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	4	13	21	60	0

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...			
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	35	62	4

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.26
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.65
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	1.93
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.40
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.09
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.31
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.89
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.09
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.57
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.72
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.31



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Ashland, Northern Forest

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14588 I live in the southern part of Ashland County and have hunted this area, where I live, for some 30+ years. Hunting in the 1990s was the best hunting I have ever, as well as most successful hunts too, had as well as introducing our children to the sport of hunting. Since the T-zone era and bonus antlerless tags, our deer numbers went down drastically to the point of I still hunt but our children do not. I journal my hunting seasons. This past fall, 2017, was my best fall for seeing deer in a long time. On most of my bow hunts I saw at least a deer. And, I saw 4 young bucks as well as 2 decent bucks. I did not harvest a deer in our county. The previous hunting seasons prior to 2017 were extremely poor hunting. In that stretch, it would be excitement to just see a deer but over half of my hunts, I did not see any deer. Since 2017 was finally a good hunting season, we just need our deer herd to continue to recover in numbers. We need to rebuild that doe population. Now, here it is April of 2018 and our winter is continuing to be harsh in the southern part of Ashland County. So, that in itself could now make an impact on our doe herd as well as those one year old deer. I hope that you will take all of this information into account as you set your harvest numbers. If we could continue to rebuild our deer herd, limit those doe tags to a minimum, then maybe we could get to a point where we could attract our youth to get back into hunting. Just like fishing, if you engage the youth, they want fish action. Same is true with hunting whitetail deer. Being that I have lived in this location all of my life as well as hunt here too, I would appreciate it if you take this information into great consideration as you set those harvest quotas for our county. One last thing, in the location that I live, we own 40 acres. But, we are surrounded by other private land owners. One of our neighbors leases out his land for deer hunting. If those hunters are able to get doe tags, for every tag that they are able to acquire, they will fill that tag. That process would continue to hurt the rebuilding of our deer population, especially down here where I live and hunt. Thank you,

14589 The deer population in this unit was obliterated since the over harvest of antler less deer and the over population of wolves in the last ten years. With the zero antler less quota's of recent years the population has started to see some recovery but is still a long way from where it was. There are more small bucks (spikes & Forks) because they aren't being harvested as fawns. The population is having a lot of trouble trying to recover with the wolf population constantly on the rise. I've hunted there since the mid 70's and I have seen the population in it's worst shape but it was due to lack of food (logging) and severe winter weather not from over harvest and predators. The deer will never recover with over harvesting of antler less deer and the abundant wolf population. Back in the 70's the only real predator was man and antler less tags were party tags and not many of them either. Now they have limited food, predators (wolves and bears). The buck only policy in this unit is helping but if you sell antler less tags there again it will only boost the license sales for a couple of years and wipe out the progress we are starting to see. Please keep the antler less tags out of this unit. The tradition of deer hunting in Wi. runs deep and is in jeopardy of losing a whole generation of hunters due to the policies of recent years. If the deer population recovers the hunter participation will recover too. In turn it will improve the economy with more hunters buying tags and spending money in local towns who used to rely on deer season to help get them through the winters. The registration system of calling in harvests have taken away part of traditions of hunters meeting at the local registration stations and communicating with each other on the hunt. They no longer get that feeling of pride when they are congratulated at the registration station on the harvest of a nice buck by a fellow hunter. Please save our hunting tradition in Wi.



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- 14590 The deer still need more of a chance to comeback. The goal has been to build the herd in Ashland county, but it will take a while with all that they have going against them. The antlerless kill rate was way too high for many years, the predators, and winters didn't help and we found that the area deer herd was collapsing. This changed the culture of the hunter, to shoot any buck that walked, from before when there were more hunters waiting and trying to shoot a nice animal. The over-harvest of antlerless deer caused a large mortality rate on buck fawns. The total social dilemma resulted in a skewed buck to doe ratio. For the last few years it's been easy to see does, and a few younger bucks, but the older bucks and numbers of bucks have diminished greatly. This area used to be known as a big buck area. The DNR's zealous overkilling of does totally disrupted the herd, and it needs more time to come back. Ask anyone who spends any time in the woods and they'll all tell you the same thing. Allowing this many doe permits right now is irresponsible, and especially after this hard winter. Please eliminate the doe permits!
- 14591 I would like to say I'm in the Clam Lake area & had 12 cameras on different old logging roads and trails from June thru February.. I share lots of info with different wardens, biologists, and DNR officials.. And this last year I had more wolf pictures then deer. I was shocked on the lack of mature bucks. I had one buck that I felt was a four year old on camera. And I have to say I went months without a deer picture on some of these trails that were always good. Lots of bear pictures, a few elk, lots of wolves.. I did see a few fawns and it's been years since I seen a fawn up there.. That's always a blessing, however the snow is so deep this winter again, I feel it'll be a ghost town once again..I stuck with it in Ashland County for 28 years and I would love to see the predators under control cause after all it's always fun to see at least one or two deer in the couple months I sit. And I move around.. Not kidding either, I see one or two deer a season.. Thanks and God Bless!! Ashland County is a beautiful place.. I have a cottage on a beautiful lake!!
- 14592 I started hunting 23 years ago when I was 12. I am now 35 and have hunted every season. Ever year since the hunting has become harder. We have used bait every year and now with cameras we know just about every deer entering an area. The last 5 years I may see 4-5 deer all season over bait. The cameras also tell the same story when I am not there. The same 4-5 deer. 3 years ago I sat everyday of rifle season averaging 6-8 hours a day and only saw 2 deer all season. The northern forest zone is NOT the same as the Southern Zone. Also the northern two counties like Iron and Ashland should be managed much differently than the rest of the state These two counties experience much longer/severe winters, larger predation from key predators like wolves, black bear, coyotes, etc. We also have very limited agriculture unlike everywhere south of hwy 8. It cannot be a blanket approach by large zones. We have to realize these outlying areas may need special regulations much like inland waters do for walleye, musky, and bass.
- 14593 I don't believe any antlerless deer need to be harvested. The herd on private land seems to have finally stabalized. Maybe we will achieve some growth if all factors (weather and predators) cooperate. Buck numbers are slightly increasing. Basically in the 1.5 and 2.5 year olds. Due directly to hunters not being allowed to shoot antlerless deer, which protects the buck fawns. The herd on public land needs ABSOLUTELY no antlerless harvest!! Populations continue to struggle. Higher numbers of predators and lack of logging is hurting the deer on public land. State and County are doing well in there timber harvest, but many areas in the Federal forest have zero activity! And with this winter dragging I believe deer are beginning to struggle. Some loss may occur if "green up" is delayed any longer. As well as impacting the fawn mortality.If we are sincere in our effort to "increase" the deer herd for Ashland County then we DO NOT need any antlerless deer harvested!! Thanks!!



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- 14594 Healthy Hurds of deer in this unit. Looking good throughout the winter and into Spring. The state might want to get a move on the predator issue. With 6 growing packs of wolves on the unit it's the winter months predator activities that will prove to be a much bigger issue as Spring pups are born. Prediction... Not monitoring the wolf better in Wisconsin is gonna cost us in growing CWD positives in arrears where the wolf have not been allowed to do their job... They are the pressuring that Controls the spread of CWD. Ever wonder why public lands are free of the threat... Just thank a wolf for doing it's job. Wisconsin is a new role model in trophic Cascade effects. Redistributing the wolf to areas where CWD positives pop up... Now that's a great idea! The feeding of large game throughout the winter months in this area... Someone's going to have to crack down on and serve some warnings to the public awareness on how CWD is spread. Ban The feeding of animals period.
- 14595 I spend three weeks dedicated to hunt in the county forest land. I routinely make a 15 mile loop scouting and hunting. The population has been reduced over the last 15 years to a level I could have never imagined. The mature buck unfortunately is virtually a thing of the past. Many of the does observed do not have fawns. There is no over browsing taking place in the county land I hunt. I personally own 160 acres and have logged portions according to my MFL plan. The popple cut over you can hardly walk through and the maple ridges have regeneration that far exceeds the density to establish a stand of timber. If we want to continue to ignore the predation, and lack of control of managing such, how do we manage the deer herd? The survivability of the young of the year fawns is dismal. The deer herd in the area I hunt is not increasing. I find it difficult to manage the unit with a broad brush.
- 14596 I hunt private/public land about 50/50 and have definitely seen an increase in antlerless deer numbers over the past few years. I am very happy to see that even with a 3 year objective of "increase", some antlerless tags are potentially going to be available. With these tags being available, I feel that it takes a little pressure off of the buck population by allowing a few hunters who want to put some meat in the freezer to be able to harvest a doe or fawn instead of being forced to harvest a buck. I know there is a lot of vocal opinion to never shoot a doe, but I can't believe having endless buck only seasons without any antlerless harvest is a biologically sound management decision. If deer numbers are that low, then we shouldn't have a season at all. I commend the CDAC committee for their service and commitment to making informed decisions on wildlife management.
- 14597 Ashland co. needs to get control of the predators. At this time we have to manage the herd for the hunters along with the predators. Our failing elk program of proof of the effect the predators have on our wildlife. The token elk hunt this year is a joke. Why does the wdnr resists any talks to manage a mature buck population in Ashland Co. THAT IS SAD. Its all about the numbers of total deer killed . The age of the bucks being taken right now in Ashland Co. is a shame. And with the influx of the xgun the cdac and the wdnr needs to act now. We need a one buck a year policy and if we have doe tags the hunters gets one deer not both. We need to do something to help regain a mature buck herd. The reason hunters aren't hunting up here any more is because of the lack of mature bucks. We/they are hunting down state and out of state more and more.
- 14598 All the members on the cdac committee are from the northern half of Ashland county and hunt on farms or private property. Where they have more deer and have little information on deer numbers in the forest.poaching and predators lack of abundant food sources ,make the forest much different.most of the people who I talk with would like to split the county in half.we have three years of antlered deer only and in my time afield I have just started to see more deer. For the DNR representative to say that we need to have a antlernes season or the population will get out of control is just plain stupid,the hunters that hunted the forest left for lack of deer.do you really think people drive to Ashland co to shoot a doe. Why is selling tags more important than doing the right thing.let the herd grow



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- 14599 after looking at the information that has been provided to use from the state and countless hours in the woods through out the year.i have no idea were a group of people that are supposed to represent the general users of the deer community could come up with this recommendation. the deer herd is in no way shape or form close to sustaining the vote to sustain or the harvest of antler less deer for some time yet.this winter is far from being over and by the time spring comes we could easily have far less deer then the few we have now.we need to vote to grow the population not reduce the population.between predation and mother nature the deer are going to have a hard enough time hanging on.i am vary disappointed in the recommendation that has been provided.we need to grow the population
- 14600 I really appreciate the transparency the DNR is providing in regard to their blatant mismanagement of the deer herd population in northern Wisconsin. While I agree with the proposal to increase the deer herd population, I do not agree with the strategy. There is still waist-deep snow in Ashland county, a DNR population survey which identifies an increase in predators (wolves), and yet at the slightest short-term increase in deer population the proposal is to offer almost 800 antlerless tags. In order to increase the population you have to let the antlerless population thrive. If this quota becomes official I will buy a tag and not shoot a doe because I do believe the population needs to be increased and I will do my part in allowing that to happen.
- 14601 I'm very disappointed to see that Ashland county is once again going down the route of harvesting does.. Didn't we learn anything??? The last 7-9 years of hunting have been poor with the last 5 terrible. Last year was the 1st year my camp saw a meaningful increase in the number of deer on the landscape. We saw more deer but almost all the deer were young under 3.5yrs of age and now we want to start taking more when they are just starting to increase in number...I don't get it. In addition this April weather had been very severe, single digits and 30" of snow on the landscape still. Fawn production will be bad this year with plenty of winterkill. Enough is enough. Please change this unit to have a zero antlerless quota.
- 14602 Sir's; How in the world does your plan to increase the deer herd include having antlerless tags available? The numbers are slowly coming back and now you want to take it back down. Do any of you have a clue as to what is going on up here, it's snowing every other day single degree temps every morning, winter is dragging on, these poor deer are having a rough time right now and your talking about taking them down another notch all for the sake of generating more income??? Shame on you. I and a lot of people that you don't hear from and don't want to hear from are fed up with all this miss management, sorry if this offends anyone but the truth often hurts!!!!
- 14603 As shown earlier on this form I have hunted for 65 years. I find it very upsetting that a person may harvest an antlered deer with a bow and then again with a rifle. Every hunter should be eligible to harvest the same number of deer. It is grossly unfair for some one to be able to harvest a buck with a bow and then again with a rifle. Those who hunt only with a rifle are being discriminated against. The dual bow/gun harvest also further challenges the buck population. Also, baiting should be eliminated so every one has an equal opportunity. If feeding is to be permitted allow it after the season and when the weather is more severe.
- 14604 there are way too many bears eating fawns. why does it still take 7-8 years to draw a bear tag when there are too many bears? increased bear tags would help fawn recruitment. wolves are completely out of control!!!! if fawn does make it through the bear barrage, then it has to face packs of wolves. the state needs to manage these killers much better. the tree huggers that support the wolves will probably never see a wolf in the wild. the tax payers that support the DNR see the wolves and can't shoot them. the tax payers should have the say in wolf reduction. the last time I checked, there was ZERO REVENUE GENERATED BY WOLVES.
- 14605 If the goal is to increase the deer herd how do you justify going from 0 antlerless tags to almost 3000?!! (counting the quota + bonus tags) Yes the deer have rebounded with the last three mild winters and so we dont need another 0 quota but the number proposed is much too high in my opinion. Also this winter isnt over yet. We are in April and there is still deep snow and cold into at least mid month. There is potential yet to lose a significant number of deer depending on the next few weeks of weather. A modest number of tags could be made available but close to 3000 is way too many for this county.



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- 14606 Continue a zero quota for the next three years, see what happens and then I'd be more open to having doe tags be reintroduced. I've said time after time great progress has been made but this is still fragile. Predation is very high and with a bad winter we could see a significant decrease in our deer populations. Also, maybe think about no more baiting. These corn piles are getting a lot more deer killed and if we can hunt them the old fashion way I think it would help the numbers increase and then maybe Doe tags is a good idea. CONCLUSION: NO DOE TAGS FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS!!!!
- 14607 The southern area of Ashland County doesn't need an antlerless quota; the Youth Tags are fine. The deer herd is recovering but not to the extent that we need antlerless tags. Along with more deer I also had more pictures of predators on my cameras. Ashland County should be divided into two units/zones. I don't doubt that in central and northern county areas with the agriculture that there is a need for antlerless tags but that certainly isn't the case in the southern area of the county. It also looks like it will be awhile before we have anything greening up this Spring.
- 14608 Would like to see a antler restriction put in place for the county, with the smaller deer heard now because of the out of control predators we have no control of and the amount of hunters shooting 1.5 year old bucks the heard has a hard time growing large bucks. Another idea would be going to 1 buck per person per year in ashland co. and a nubby buck would be considered a buck. Don't be scared to think out of the box when it comes to this matter, this county could be a leader not a follower. Bottom line is we as hunters have to do our part to build a quality heard.
- 14609 I have seen a large amount of Adult does (a few) Dry does, and most of the does had twins the last three years. The Dry does chase the fawns and yearlings away from food sources the young ones need a chance to grow to their potential. Large amounts of adult does tend to chase off Bucks making the Bucks go nocturnal during the Deer Season. The amount of predators is low in my area, there is a huge group of Adult does and yearlings all over the Ashland Area. Hopefully, some permits will be available to put the dry does in check. Thank You.
- 14610 I would like to see several more years of zero antlerless quota for Ashland county. There were many years of overharvesting antlerless deer that decimated the deer herds. Between that and the wolf population, that is much larger than the DNR wants to admit, the deer have taken a beating. I would recommend another 5-10 years with no antlerless quota. They allowed too many years of an almost unlimited antlerless tag supply that I believe it will take at least that long to build a decent herd. I hunt the national forest, no ag land nearby.
- 14611 I would like to complement and thank the board members on their work thus far. Your time and dedication to improving the deer population in Ashland County is greatly appreciated. Specifically to address the question concerning antlerless permits for 2018, my recommendation is we do not have any during the season based on the winter we continue to have..., It's April 4 and we still have a lot of snow cover and cold temperatures in the county. My concern is the survival rate of the existing population and the fawns coming this spring.
- 14612 I feel as though there is absolutely no need for antlerless tags at this point. We have just gone through a terrible winter again which is still holding on. We can only assume mortality what is reality. We have proven people will help manage deer numbers and are willing to kill deer why can we let the population go and then do something about it. We are not at this point yet. The introduction of crossbows into the mix is absolute deviation on our herd. I believe something must be done here. Maybe a 2 week crossbow season?
- 14613 I am sure you hear this often but since the reintroduction of the wolves, deer hunting has suffered in the area. When we see deer we see an abundance of does and very few bucks. It is no secret that bucks are much smarter than does. Their movement habits have become mainly nocturnal because of the depredations of deer. The days of shooting a midday buck or even doe for that matter are gone. Morning and late afternoon are about the only times to sit out. Before we can address the deer we need to get rid of the wolves!



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- 14614 Deer numbers in northern Ashland County are starting to see a slight increase over the past few years but we have a ways to go before getting back to where it needs to be. Fortunately, we have not had a hard winter recently. Between the predators eating our spring fawns, and the vehicle collisions, our deer numbers are not growing very quickly. I would like to see buck only for a few more years as one bad winter could easily wipe out the recent population gains we have seen.
- 14615 I've hunted in Glidden for 24 years and I believe this was the worse year ever. I saw a couple of doe the whole season and even with the muzzle loader later on. You cannot possibly be serious about doling out doe tags for uneducated hunters to slaughter doe in this area when there are hardly any deer to begin with. Get real and listen to the hunters. We are the one who are out in the woods not sitting in Madison behind a desk dictating what should happen 250 miles away.
- 14616 Number one concern in our hunting area is the number of predators (wolves, bobcats, bear) that we are seeing on trail cameras. maybe our second biggest concern is hunters from other areas coming into the NF and harvesting antlerless deer on their antlerless tags from other areas so as to increase the deer population in their main hunting area. And lastly is the years of severe winters which make deer more vulnerable to those predators.
- 14617 this is my feelings on deer management in zone, I have been hunting for 50 yrs, have 100 acres of private land, what I see now is last 3 yrs. no antlerless permits, I see the ratio of does up, in these three yrs hunters are shooting the young bucks, I feel this is why the ratio is off [not enough bucks to breed] I would recommend this year and next year for this zone only three points or better per side. thanks for my comments.
- 14618 The number of bucks in my area is down and the number of does is astronomical. Also the number of wolves on my property is through the roof. I have multiple cameras set on my property and all of them have a large number of wolf photos on them. After every night this winter we went out snowmobiling the tracks would be ran down from wolf over night. I would like to see antlerless tags given out for Sawyer co.
- 14619 I think the dnr has mismanaged the deer herd for years. We hunt as hard as anyone and if we see 4 deer in a 9 day season we think we are lucky. They need to stop all the special hunts, combine the muzzle loader season with regular gun season. They don't need a separate time. I have hunted the area for 54 years and the only thing that keeps me coming back is tradition.
- 14620 Please do not allow an antlerless harvest again this year. Also get rid of cross bows as they are leading to a larger buck harvest. Either that or make the price of a cross bow tag triple a normal archery tag. The northern forest area needs to see an increase in overall herd size to recover from the past and also this years extended winter season.
- 14621 deer populations on public land still very low due mostly to predators mainly wolves and winter turning into severe range this year. If we are trying to increase the herd on public land quotas need to be kept very low 200 to 300 max! Otherwise we are going back to ground zero! Fawn recruitment and survival will be very low this spring!
- 14622 Our family hunts the national forest west of Butternut, We hunt both bow and gun season and have very few deer on the public land. Until we get the wolf population under control and as the winter lingers on the current amount of 6 to 7 hundred antlerless tags are far too many! We believe 300 to 350 should be max for the public!
- 14623 Deer numbers have increased substantially the last few years and should be maintained, not increased. I'm concerned that allowing further increase will result in property damage and habitat degradation which in turn will ultimately negatively impact deer and other wildlife. A higher antlerless harvest should be attempted.
- 14625 The deer heard has started to come back in northern wi but Ashland and iron County still have a lot of making up to do. Large snow amounts and high predator numbers are hard on the deer heard as a whole in public forest areas. We really need wolf control in both these counties for anything to rebound.



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- 14624 Need to let the herd grow more before we go back to antlerless tags. When we do they need to be hunters choice tags ,not extra tags.We also should research an antler point restriction, it sure seems to work in other states. Also don't think it is a good idea having husband and wife on the same board.
- 14626 To many antlerless tags for public land,winter lingering into May.The fawn recruitment will be extremely low.No control of wolf numbers and other predators.National forest deer numbers are very low!Please keep antlerless tags down to 300 max same as iron cty for public land same as Iron cty!
- 14627 After having a harsh winter and already low doe and fawn numbers on public land, selling doe tags at this point will just decimate the already struggle deer population. Predation and over harvest have already crippled our herd. Stop the nonsense, NO DOE TAGS!!!!!!
- 14628 As we well know wolves are the biggest threat when deer yard up with a hard snow pack. Doe numbers are finally starting to go up slightly. Wouldn't take much to drop them below what is needed to maintain the small herd we have outside the towns.
- 14629 I don't believe this unit should offer any anterless permits for 2018-2020. After that I would say half the number currently recommended would be proper. It is just starting to make a comeback, so don't wreck it at this point for the future.
- 14630 Ashland county's diverse habitat varys greatly, deer hunting south of mellen is different than hunting north of mellen to Ashland where open fields are more common.south of mellen are large blocks of forests and the deer are struggling more.
- 14631 Predators have been taking there toll on the deer. Bear numbers are high, coyote and wolf numbers are high. Need to figure a way to get them down. A big thank you for the chance at a elk in Wisconsin. You're hard work is paying off!
- 14632 Deer population is the lowest I've seen it in my lifetime I would like to see Zero antlerless permits until the population gets to a level where it's fun hunting again I would enjoy hunting a lot more if I saw a deer when I went
- 14633 I still think the Predator count is much to high. Especially near and on the bad river reservation. I am not seeing even close to the numbers of deer that I had seen since I started hunting up to about 8 or so years ago.
- 14634 I saw more deer on private land in southern Ashland Co. But not many in the Ashland County forest. I have hunted the same area in the county forest for 30 years. There is not enough deer there to be shooting does yet.
- 14635 ITS TIME TO START HARVESTING ANTLER LESS DEER, ITS BEEN 4 SEASONS AND THE NUMBERS HAVE INCREASED. I SUPPORT THIS RECOMMENDATION AND THINK IT COULD HAVE BEEN HIGHER. EVEN WITH THIS HARVEST THE DEER HERD WILL INCREASE.
- 14636 It is sad the absence of mature bucks. How can we have any antlerless tags untill the wdnr gets a handle on the predators and starts managing for more mature bucks. We need a one buck per hunter per year !!!
- 14637 The only way I can support Junior Antlerless tags is if there are better controls on who is buying and actually using the tags. It can and has been abused in the past with adults using the tags.
- 14638 all though we all want to harvest venison- I think Ashland county is not ready for doe tags. the numbers seem to be dropping not increasing in the Peeksville area
- 14639 There should be a question about hunters having a reasonable opportunity to harvest a mature buck. Ashland co. has a problem with the lack of mature bucks.
- 14640 why isn't the wdnr concerned about the lack of mature Bucks ? How can you have a doe quota with the winter we have ended up with. We need unit 28 again...
- 14641 So much more wolf sign in the area I hunt than ever before. We actually had wolves tracking us and circling around us opening morning.



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14642 The predator population is still too high in our area . Controlling them must remain a high priority.

14643 the deer are starting to come back don't need antlerless tags

14644 3 more years of NO DOE TAGS and NO JUNIOR permits.

14645 One buck per hunter per year.

14646 Do not see enough deer

14647 More Tags Please!!!

14648 NO DOE TAGS

18008



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Barron, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

98 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 65
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 12
I hunt in this unit: 87
General interest in this unit: 14

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 86
Bow: 43
Crossbow: 27
Muzzleloader: 26

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 24.44
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 46
Mostly Private Land: 25
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 7
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 16
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 17
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 32
Fewer: 23
Same: 28
More: 9
Many More: 5
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	1	10	30	16	40	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	11	31	14	38	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	11	28	12	38	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	2	30	66	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	16	72	10
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	28	59	11
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	9	85	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.95
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.08
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.53
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.70
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.47
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.56
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.40
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.54
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.93
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.27
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.61



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Comments for Barron, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

14649 Hello, I've been hunting on our family owned land for 17 years now. Continually each year the number of deer observed on our property, crossing the road, or adjacent properties has dwindled to nothing. We own 80 acres of land which has been deemed QDM for the last 10 years. The adjacent 80 acres to the South of us has been deemed QDM longer than that and is hunted on every year as well. The 80 acres that runs on the back side of our property has been hunted on every year as well with the exception of the fall 2017 hunt which no one went there due to the lack of animals being observed. Public hunting grounds then borders up to this tract of land. The 80 acre parcel North of our land also wasn't hunted on for the last two years as no animals were being harvested. Last year I only had the opportunity to hunt the land during the gun season. The land has a year round home which is lived in by family members and I make regular visits/vacations to the property. Our land is on the Barron/Rusk county line off of US 8. We know the adjacent land owners so we know what they are seeing and if anything is being harvested. Trail cameras also reveal what is moving through. The land owners across the street from us have several hundred acres which they hunt as a family unit. (Dad, brother's & kids.) The same report comes from them every year of we go out all day and see nothing. They haven't harvested a deer in years. Last year it took 8 days to see the first and only buck I saw. The only other deer I saw in the woods (2X0 during 8 days was a doe with (2) yearlings. For years there has been a steady decline of seeing anything in the woods. I haven't harvested a deer for the last five years. There are no squirrels nor any everyday birds anymore. There are no Turkeys roaming around as well. The environment has changed and is definitely not for the better. When the property was purchased I would see 15-20 deer a day hunting. For the last twelve years it has declined every year. During the course of the winter there has been a doe with (2) yearlings that travel through and a single yearling would follow this group. Last week Wed or Thurs that single yearling passed away apparently from an automobile collision as she was observed lying in our ditch on Thursday night. Due to seeing no Turkeys anymore we Turkey hunt West of 53 on a friends farm. In conversations with those landowners we hear stories of deer being harvested on the West side of Barron county. No one talks about harvesting deer on the Eastern side of Barron county as there are no deer. Being in law enforcement we know a sheriff's deputy that lives in Barron county not a mile down the road from us who reports the same thing. Nothing on his cameras, nothing in the woods hunting. I know several individuals in the DNR where we have had conversations. Based on personal observations, discussions with adjacent land owners, county workers, business owners along US 8 everyone comes to the same opinion. There are no deer here in the East end of Barron county. There is no shooting from the public hunting grounds off of US 8. There are no cars parked at the public hunting grounds on US 8. Why? Because there are no deer here. Based on what is observed the county should be split in 1/2 for the deer quote. The East end of the county shouldn't have antlerless tags handed out or extended hunts. Something needs to change. Hunting traditions in Wisconsin are going down. Taking kids into the woods and seeing nothing for hours or days does nothing to motivate your individuals to want to hunt. I think this needs to be seriously evaluated for the future hunting in Eastern Barron county. I can't believe there's the discussion of increasing the deer harvest when no one is seeing anything. The



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- 14650 I feel that many hunters including myself find satisfaction in hunting by trying to kill a mature buck. For many, shooting a doe or fawn is not as rewarding and I believe that holding an antlerless only 2018 season would be a terrible deterrent to people wanting to travel to our area to deer hunt as well as the tourism loss the area would take from people not wanting to go deer hunting to only get to shoot a doe or fawn. I understand more and more people are satisfied with shooting a doe but for me and I think many others if we are going to take an animal's life shooting a female or juvenile deer is not what our goal is. I hope for the sake of our deer herd and not having seen many deer while hunting the past few years that we do not adopt an antlerless only season. I think this would be devastating to the herd, and far too many people are unable to look at their specific piece of woods and make their own assessment of the deer population there. I think having a blanket antlerless season would not hurt some really highly populated areas of farmland but in places where it is more hardwoods, I think it would take years for the population to recover. I think a compromise could be that if you elected to shoot a buck it would eliminate you from being able to buy an antlerless license. This way people who want to shoot bucks can (and they usually don't shoot does anyways) and others can buy their antlerless tags and be happy with that without having the opportunity to harvest a buck. But compromise usually doesn't happen in these circumstances, my two cents. If it is an antlerless only season it might be the first year I ever don't deer hunt in 12 years, that would make me sad.
- 14651 Under no circumstances should we be trying to decrease the herd size in Barron county - at least not in the eastern half of the county. My wife and I own 120 acres east of Chetek and have hunted that property all my hunting life and I am now 68 yrs old. Where I use to see upwards of 20 deer on opening day I now am lucky to see 4 or 5. I hunt hard all 9 days of rifle season and probably 30 to 40 days during bow season. Prior to this year I had never gone more than 1 day during the rifle season without seeing at least 1 deer. This year I did not see a single deer the last six days of season even though I hunted every day for most of the day. We have high numbers of predators which certainly accounts for the loss of a few, especially fawns. However I believe the biggest reason for decline of deer in my area is over harvest of antlerless deer. I see no reason to give free antlerless tags with each license and then provide bonus tags besides. We should at the very least be trying to maintain our herd instead of lowering it. It also bothers me that apparently the advisory committee for Barron Co. doesn't pay much attention to this comment section. I base that on the fact that after reading the comment section from last fall the very large majority of comments expressed the same concerns but yet the committee still decided that the herd needed to be decreased. Why would people waste their time doing surveys when their opinions are ignored. Listen to the people who are out there on their land and know what's going on with the deer on their property. Thank you for allowing me this forum to express my opinions.
- 14652 I understand deer numbers vary from location to location within a management unit. I also know that I hunt primarily private land with only a few locations (managed forest crop, county forests land) open for public hunting nearby but I have steadily seen a decrease in the number of deer seen overall from season to season and I don't support increasing the antlerless quota. As a group we used to go from how many deer did you see per sit to did you even see a deer today. I will always hunt and put in the time as I'm generally out in the woods 7 days or so out of the 9 day rifle season besides the bow hunting I do but I understand why more people don't put in the amount of time anymore or choose not to hunt. There are areas that have a surplus of deer but it has been over 10 years since I can say that I routinely saw a deer in my area. Now days if I see a deer during a sit it was a good sit as was the case a year or two ago I had more sits where I didn't see a deer versus when I did. I have a lot of private acreage that I have access to and it just seems that the population is not as strong as it used to be. Then when I see recommendations to increase antlerless harvest it is just frustrating as it's more difficult to shoot a doe when it is one of the only deer you've seen in a few days. I just don't think we should be increasing the antlerless quota nor issuing more bonus antlerless tags.



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- 14653 When this program started I thought oh this is a great idea we the people will have a say in what our county does with our herd. I have went to the meetings listened to what has been brought to the committee from both survey information and people speaking. Now I look at the makeup of this committee it is stacked deck against the sportsman. We have Urban that has a vote on our herd out in the country areas. If we have to many deer in urban areas the state has ways to take care of this problem. Forestry needs to go to all public land and check for overgrazed areas. Not just one here and one there. For the DMAP areas if you are complaining about deer issues. If you posted something on Facebook or Craigslist about letting folks in to hunt you will take care of the problem. This will work in agriculture areas as well. Thanks for giving me this opportunity to speak my mind. I hope that I have brought some different points for you to consider.
- 14654 Thank you for the option to comment on the deer season hunting structure. I urge you to reconsider not offering the holiday hunt. This was a great opportunity I took advantage of last year in Polk County and hunted during the Christmas break with both family and friends. Regarding the concern of snowmobiles not being able to use the trails, I have been told that maybe one in 15 years, the trails have the possibility of being open during this time frame. And the few hunters that chose to hunt and snowmobile trail users should be able to co exist during this time period. In closing I urge you to allow hunters the opportunity to hunt during the Holiday hunt in Barron County. Also, if you are proposing to decrease the deer population over the next three years why reduce the quota harvest from last year. This seems counter intuitive to the stated goal. Appears to want to increase the deer population. Thank you
- 14655 Our group of hunters have hunted regional private land and Timberland Hills for 22 years. In the last 5 to 6 years, we have remarked how the number of deer has dwindled and what we observe mostly juvenile (female or antlerless). While there might be some sign that we have a wolf population, I have hard time imagining that the limited numbers, if any, could keep the population away (not down) from such a large region. I'm an experienced hunter and have not loosened a shot in three years during the seasons; deer in this locale are too young and small. To the best of my knowledge, other neighboring hunting camps are also experiencing this extended lol. Finally, there are fewer hunters that spend their time in Timberland Hills judging by the number of vehicles parked at the entry points. I think it's hardly a secret that the area is fairly void of deer.
- 14656 I am filling on this survey because I STILL CARE!! even if some of you on this committee say well the number of people filling out the survey don't reflect the hunters of the county. I have been to the meetings and I have heard this from a few of you on the committee. I have heard " I am speaking for the Sillent majority " and totally disregard the survey. The survey and the meetings are the only way for we the people to voice our opinion. It is the number one item in the CDAC Charter to gather public opinion. This is just insane what you are trying to do with the herd in Barron County. I for one am seriously considering giving up totally on deer hunting. Why would I give you guys money to sit in the woods to see no deer!! It is a crying shame what has been done to the deer herd in Barron county in my life time.
- 14657 Unfortunately 6000 antlerless deer is unachievable under current regulations. Recommend that the CDAC for this unit recommend to the State/DNR that the Earn-a-Buck practice be reinstated to allow another option for controlling deer populations - the only chance we now have to decrease the deer herd in this unit. We understand that individuals in the northeastern part of the County have a different take on the size of the deer herd - and yes, the population is lower in that area especially during the summer and fall when the deer prefer corn, alfalfa and soybean fields, but increasing the deer herd in Barron County will not help their cause - the deer are still going to go where the best food is.



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- 14658 I've hunted in the area for almost 30 years and in the past 15 years have seen a steady decline in deer numbers. This is the first year I did not see a single deer with antlers either bow hunting or rifle hunting. I took the first week of November off and hunted almost every day. I saw very few does after September. Very frustrating to see plans to increase the kill. My son lives in La Crosse and has hunted Vernon County. Nice deer numbers in that part of the state. Here in Barron County, not so good, at least on public land in the forested areas. I've also heard comments from other hunters in this area. Not new hunters, but guys that have been hunting for a long time.
- 14659 We just don't have the deer in the county we had years ago. Sitting in the woods for days and not seeing deer sucks!!! You are proposing to kill more it just is not right. I hope that taking this survey isn't a waste of time. From what I have seen at the meetings you disregard everything works on the survey, everything that spoken by the public. This is the only way that the public can voice their opinion either by filling out the survey or coming to a meeting and voicing their opinion. Some of the people on this board disregard everything that we say by the survey from the numbers of last year for example. You were turning people off from even going to the meetings.
- 14660 The 2017/18 winter has been long and harsh. Deer numbers in much of this DMU were already quite low. My personal observations on my own 86 acres and the neighboring properties is that deer numbers are down drastically. By contrast, sightings of predators including black bears, coyotes and wolves is up significantly. I think that the current cdac is heavily influenced by those interested in raising trees for profit and even though there was strong opposition in public comment, they moved forward in recommending population reduction. As a result I think the population has suffered. I think the recommendation should be changed to maintain or even increase.
- 14661 I am feeling the survey out knowing full well from attending meetings that the committee totally disregards this survey. I have listen to the people speak on the committee how we didn't have enough participation in the survey. This is one of the ways the public has a chance to voice their opinion they're not on the committee. I have heard other remarks from people that are on the committee about the silent majority. If you're not going to the people taking the time to fill out the survey why are we even bothering filling it out. The charter speaks of listening to the public start listening to the public!
- 14662 Would it be possible to have a two (2) year test period of extending the rifle season to include another full week? In other words hold a 16 day rifle season (as is the policy in both MN & MI). For example, in this year that would mean beginning the season on the 10th of November and running through the 25th. I think such an increase might be an easier way to control herd size and to please the rifle hunters. One could test this for a two (2) year period and carefully check the results to see if they are more in line with the desired herd reduction preference.
- 14663 I can't blame the DNR any more this is now people from Barron county that are destroying the deer herd in Barron county. What a shame. The sad part is I as a person in the county can't vote these people out!! Why are you not listening to the people!! I looked at the survey information from what was available and the public said they wanted to increase the herd. If this stuff continues I won't by a licence any more. I won't let anyone hunt my land we will fix this ourselves if you refuse to listen to the people!!
- 14664 This is not good for Barron County. We won't have any deer left in the eastern half of the county. These questions from my time of hunting bow and gun are not good. I have scouted many of the public woods near the Blue Hills and we just don't have much of a herd left. I am so disappointed that I couldn't wait to be retired and have many hours to spend in the woods. Now I walk looking for trail and sign of deer there just is so little I am ready to stop hunting until this county starts to do a better job.



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- 14665 You had a quota of 6800 last year. 3400 antlerless were shot. HUGE question is WHY? Because there is not as many deer as you think. I hunted 27 out of 30 days in November. I was planning on shooting a doe until I didn't see very many. What the hell is the matter with you people? Deer hunting is being ruined! I don't know why I'm wasting my time with this. You never listen anyway. I saw a bunch of bears. Lots of those should be shot. Way too many of those around.
- 14666 Current deer metric data suggest a deer density of 40/sq mi. Moderate browse damage during this winter. Seeing groups of deer in fields during evening hours. All of this suggests decreasing herd size is appropriate. Based on 2017 buck harvest and total harvest, 2 free tags/ plus bonus tags seems like logical choice if DNR data is accurate. A healthy deer herd along with a healthy forrest for future generations is priority one for our hunting camp.
- 14667 When I first started hunting my land when I was 12I would see as many as 50 deer on opening weekend. Many times they would travel in large groups of 6 or 12. For the past 15 years I have seen fewer deer and very rarely any large groups. I believe it would be better to give out fewer antlerless tags, encourage the growth of an older deer herd with more big bucks and allow the capacity to have a healthy population of wolves in Wisconsin.
- 14668 This is where we the public get our say in what you the committee are proposing. I think this so far out on line. We need to have fewer anterless tags issued. From what I see on my side of the county all the anterless tags handed out we won't have a deer left. I am getting so disappointed I am about ready to give up deer hunting totally!! Thanks a lot!! You have done what you set out to do kill them off!!
- 14669 The people are the publics voice. We fill out surveys, emails, speak at the meetings. We should have just as much weight in the discussion as the wildlife biologist. But not here. The biologist trumps everything. He puts his input and that overrides us. This is not right. I hear more and more people say they are going to quit hunting because the number of deer is getting less all the time.
- 14670 Allowing baiting and now crossbows and on top of that allowing tags for children under 12 has already had a negative effect on deer numbers in localized areas. My neighbor to the north and to the south both bait and each killed multiple bucks with crossbows filling tags for family members who never leave the house. It's not a good road to continue down for deer or hunter numbers.
- 14671 We need to do away with the separation of public and private, many people I talk to and myself included believe it is just a money making scheme. I hunt an equal amount of both so I have to acquire tags for both. I also think you should get a buck and a doe tag with your archery and your gun license, if you want to kill more deer than that you buy whatever's leftover.
- 14672 In 2017, Polk and Burnett Counties had an antlerless holiday hunt. Barron County needs to have one. Did not make sense that in 2017, Polk County Advisory Commmitte recommended to maintain the herd population and had a holiday hunt. However, in 2017, Barron Advisory Committee recommended a herd reduction but had no holiday hunt. I did not understand the logic.
- 14673 Barron county's deer here in my opinion is in good shape but have noticed fewer deer overall compare to last year I feel that trying to decrease the deer herd will hurt everyone's experience in future years to come. It is real easy to decrease a herd but is twice as hard to bring it back. Keep up the good work wisconsin dnr I appreciate everything you do.
- 14674 There are many more deer on the west side of this unit than there are on the east side. US Hyw 8 and STH 25 disvide this unit very easily and it's unfair for the hunters on the East side that have a much larger area of wooded land than on the West side of the unit which is primarily farm land. Classifying the entire county as one zone is irresponsible.



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- 14675 The committee needs to take the survey numbers as how the hunters feel. I have sat in the meetings and listened to a few members on the committee say "the survey number is to small of a percentage of the county". This survey and the meetings are the only way the public has a chance to speak out. Please consider our response to you.
- 14676 I, as well as many other hunters, only hunt for bucks. Implementing an antlerless only season would significantly cut down the number of hunters, impacting the financial gain for the state. I am teaching my son the practice of patience, and not just shooting the first deer he sees. Waiting for a buck to come across.
- 14677 There's still over 2' of snow in most areas and up to 32" I saw just yesterday. This as a much more severe winter than the numbers are showing. It was below 0 in November with snow cover since Oct. I'm not sure how we can determine harvest numbers when winter mortality can't possibly be totally allowed for yet.
- 14678 The crossbow efficiency is becoming an issue. There will be fewer and fewer hunters using bows as more and more change over to a crossbow because of it's success ratio. This will in turn lead to fewer mature bucks being shot in the gun season and reduced numbers of gun hunters.
- 14679 What are you people thinking!! This is not right. you are heading in the wrong direction with our herd!! I have talked to many hunters in my area and they are all saying the same as me. We are all saying why should we even buy a liscence we won't have a deer left to see!!!
- 14680 We need to split the county. The numbers just don't support this proposal. We just don't have the herd numbers to take thud many anterless deer. I will stop hunting if this continues. I will not pay to sit in the woods to see nothing. I can do that for free.
- 14681 why would you make the archery season longer if they can not kill a deer in the current season time that lasts 4 MONTHS they really should quit. If you want to make the season longer why close it run it like the coyote season year long.
- 14682 I would like to see no changes to the crossbow season. I feel crossbows haven't increased overall archery deer kills and has increased the number of archery hunters which is supported by the DNRs collected numbers.
- 14683 In my opinion Wisconsin is doing an excellent job of managing deer. I am very impressed that the state takes hunters input in to account when making decision regarding this resource. Thank you!
- 14684 There are plenty of deer in the county. A good number of antlerless deer need to be harvested for the health of the deer herd and to minimize ag damage and vehicle collisions.
- 14685 We need to let our herd try to rebound. For the last 5 years it is getting worse not better. Please you need to slow down on the antlerless tags!!
- 14686 If you keep this type of pressure on our herd I will give up deer hunting. We are loosing our herd on the eastern half of the county.
- 14687 Slow down on all these anterless tags. We are not going to get young hunters into the sport when we won't have deer to see or shoot.
- 14688 I am opposed to the number of tags being issued. Way to many. But this group doesn't care what we say anyway. That has been obvious.
- 14689 I have no faith in this committee they disregard public opinion. This is the only way the public can voice their opinion. Use it!!!
- 14690 We are going the wrong way with the deer herd. We can't keep this up. We are still in winter months. With this snow still around.
- 14691 I would hope the survey information is used in determining the decision of this committee and its not just a waste of our time.



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14692 Go back to two (2) antlerless tags with each gun hunting license and have an antlerless only holiday hunt.

14693 We are not seeing deer in our area. I hope this wasn't just a waste of time filling it out!!!

14694 I am hoping the committee use these surveys responses. I know from past years they haven't.

14695 Hunting more hours each year. Seeing less deer. Seeing about the same number of hunters.

14696 I do not agree with the baiting issue. I feel we should outlaw baiting completely.

14697 We need to look at the predators predators. They are affecting our heard as well.

14698 Coyotes are getting out of control and something needs to be done to address this.

14699 I would recommend 1 tag per hunter with hunter choice of taking a buck or doe.

14700 This is just not right we are going in the wrong direction with the deer herd.

14701 Would it be possible to impose an 8pt min size to the bucks shot?

14702 LOTS of deer and LOTS of does in the central part of the county.

14703 We need drop back the anterless tags

14704 Please use this survey thank you

18009



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Bayfield, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

220 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 77
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 49
I hunt in this unit: 201
General interest in this unit: 38

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 192
Bow: 116
Crossbow: 51
Muzzleloader: 74

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.5
Maximum: 63

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 45
Mostly Private Land: 21
Public and Private Land About Equally: 40
Mostly Public Land: 37
Exclusively Public Land: 58
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 11
Not too crowded: 39
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 31
Somewhat crowded: 36
Very crowded: 36
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 23
Fewer: 43
Same: 85
More: 49
Many More: 15
Unsure: 5

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	10	38	46	122	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	9	49	41	104	13
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	7	23	36	144	7
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	14	197	9
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	104	98	18

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.22
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.92
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.67
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.15
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.08
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.18
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.39
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.73
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.35
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.57



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Comments for Bayfield, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.



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14705 One hunter's suggested considerations for the 2018 Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee deer management strategy and recommendations for antlerless permits in the National Forest of southern Bayfield Co. On March 15, 2018 the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee made the preliminary recommendation for 11,225 bonus permits to reach a harvest quota of 3500 animals. These permits are to be distributed with 45% to public land and 55% to private land. Beyond this division there are no other options available to the committee to manage deer geographically or by land type. Following three years of no antlerless harvest except for youth (2014 – 2016) we are beginning to see a few more deer in the Drummond area, but numbers are much lower than those observed before the over-harvesting of the early 2000's. It is my opinion that it is too soon to offer large numbers of antlerless permits in the National Forest of southern Bayfield County. I am entering my 50th year of hunting in Bayfield Co., the greatest percentage of which has been done in a few square mile area between Drummond and Lake Owen. Our group of 4 – 6 hunters would typically see 2 – 4 animals per day over the first four days of the gun season, which is traditionally the time we hunt. Since the over-harvest of animals 12 – 15 years ago we see far fewer deer and last season two of our hunters saw no deer over the first three days and left early in frustration. I saw 5 deer over four days. Since 2010 our group has killed a total of 3 bucks. There is a DNR deer metric for deer seen per hunted hour that is determined from data for both a three-year average based on a hunter survey and a three-year average based on a registration survey. The hunter survey for 2017 indicates 0.47 deer sighted per hour, whereas the registration survey shows 0.81 animals sighted per hour. For the ten daylight hours we typically hunt (6:30 am – 4:30 pm) we should be seeing 4.7 and 8.1 deer per day, respectively. We do not see anywhere close to that number of animals. It is also obvious there are fewer hunters in the woods as gauged by man-tracks in the snow and parked cars, fewer gunshots, and the observation that Drummond is a ghost town on opening day weekend. Furthermore, seldom do we see a hunter under the age of 50. Clearly hunting in this area is in decline, which we believe is partially due to insufficient opportunity to see deer, let alone harvest one. This has a negative effect on the local economy and will result in fewer hunters in the future, which will be needed to harvest deer. Wisconsin DNR deer metrics, that can be found on-line, show the antlerless quota implemented in 2017 for Bayfield Co. resulted in a total antlerless harvest of 2,663 animals, of which 1,811 were taken by gun. Total harvest was split 1,108 and 1,555 on public and private, respectively. The average harvest success was 31.5%. I recall that at the 2017 CDAC meeting the local game manager predicted a harvest success of 35%, so he was accurate in his estimate. What is unclear is why the harvest success is so low if in fact deer numbers are so high. Is it lack of interest in harvesting a deer when the opportunity presents or the fact that the opportunity does not present itself because deer numbers are not what are estimated. Other relevant data included in the DNR Deer Metric report for Bayfield Co. show deer population estimates for the county are increasing from a low of 18,033 in 2014 to a predicted value of 33,012 post-hunting in 2017. This is still lower than 37,962 animals that was estimated for 2007. Since 2015 there has been one agriculture and one nuisance damage enrollment as a result of a complaint. A few years prior to that there were 5 – 6 agriculture damage enrollments per year and only a couple of nuisance enrollments altogether. Deer-vehicle collisions averaged 155 in 2014 – 2016, whereas in the three years prior the average was 113. Perhaps the higher roadkill recently was a result of more miles driven because of lower gas prices and increased driving due to the recovery from the great recession. I opposed the recommendation of the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee's recommendation for the antlerless harvest in 2017. I am not opposed to an antlerless harvest once the deer numbers have recovered to a population level where hunting success is reasonable. My personal belief is that the deer population goal for the county has been set too low. The land can sustainably support more deer. If the goal was set higher it will provide a larger population that will lead to improved hunter success and experience. Much discussion has been made regarding the effect of the deer herd on forestry, specifically the effect of browsing on the survival and growth of trees for future timber harvest. It is reasonable to believe that the value of forestry to the economics in the county exceed the economic value of deer hunting. This concern may be a more important issue for county managed forests, but in the National Forest there is little visible management or harvesting, and the forest continues to age. The area of the forest we hunt has become increasingly thick with underbrush because of under-browsing to the extent that some of our traditional stands have had to be abandoned because of the



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lack of shooting lanes. While some might applaud this it is my observation that the undergrowth is comprised of non-economic species such as balsam fir, leatherwood, hornbeam, and red maple. It is my opinion there is some middle ground such that deer numbers can be allowed to increase to a higher level and then be stabilized by a more reasonable antlerless quota. While it is likely not in the purview of the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee the era of the "hunter's choice" that ran from approximately 1980 – 2000 offered hunters the option to harvest an antlerless deer, and as it was managed established a herd size that offered better hunting opportunities during that time. I killed many antlerless deer in those years. In the fall of 2017 a survey was conducted by the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee to gather public input on their decision and recommendation to reduce the deer population in the county for 2018 – 2020. A diverse group of 190 individuals answered the survey of which 171 indicated they hunted in the county. Data suggested 45 hunted mostly public and 32 hunted mostly private land, while others hunted exclusively in one or the other. Regarding the question of agreement with the three-year recommendation to reduce the herd 25 disagreed and 115 strongly disagreed, equating to nearly 75% who were not in favor of adopting a strategy to reduce the herd. In fact Bayfield Co. is the only county in the northern tiers of counties with such a recommendation. One has to go to either Barron or Marinette counties to find a similar recommendation. These counties have much greater agricultural land use where deer tend to thrive in greater numbers. The overall opinion of the hunters responding to the survey was adopting such an approach will decrease hunter satisfaction and the general public's satisfaction in seeing deer. A majority also agreed that having fewer deer will result in no change in agricultural damage, browsing and regeneration, mortality from winterkill, vehicle collisions, and herd health. The survey included a list of concerns that helped form an individual's opinion. The two highest rated concerns were providing enough deer to offer a reasonable chance of success and overall hunter satisfaction with the number of deer on the landscape. The results of this survey clearly are in opposition to decreasing the herd and has to frustrate hunters who can only believe their voices are not being heard. The Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee did not believe the results of their survey or simply ignored them in favor a pre-determined decision. Another factor that needs to be considered regarding the proposed antlerless quota is the Winter Severity Index (WSI), which models winterkill due to very cold weather and deep snow. According to a report from Todd Nass to my email inquiry the WSI as of March 31 was: Barnes at 59, Hayward at 45, Brule at 67, Winter at 78, and Park Falls at 78. There is no measurement taken at Drummond, Cable, Grandview, or other locales that would reflect the WSI in the southern portion of the county. I was in Drummond for a few days through March 29 and there was easily 18 in. of snow in the yard of our cabin, and therefore likely more in the forest. A day after I left approximately 12 in. was received. The forecast as of today (April 4) does not show a 50 degree temperature at Drummond for the next 10 days (April 18). Snow is in the forecast for several days within that period. A WSI "point" will be added for every day there is 18 in. of snow on the ground. A WSI over 80 is considered severe. Discounting the Hayward location, which is well out of the "snow belt" most of the remaining sites will gain a point per day for snow depth and make 80 on the WSI scale, or be very close, resulting in natural loss of a significant amount of animals. This should cause the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee to revise their quota for 2018. There seems to be a disconnect between the Bayfield Co. Deer Advisory Committee and hunters, both locals and those like myself that make a nearly 300 mile drive for the annual hunt. This disconnect is more striking for hunters in the southern part of the county, mainly in the National Forest, where habitat is maturing. Hunters experienced about 25 years of moderate to excellent success in terms of animals sighted and harvested from about 1980 – 2005. The results from our group, which we have documented parallels the DNR data. Following over-harvest in the early 2000's the herd has not recovered. The past 10 years have been very disappointing and it is apparent the phenomenon that is the Wisconsin deer gun season is suffering in southern Bayfield Co. to the point that participation is in obvious decline. The decision to transition from the "quota units" to county boundaries and to discontinue antlerless hunting and manage deer locally several years ago was received positively by hunters, as it was apparent that the status quo was not acceptable. Something had to change and hunters accepted the change. Unfortunately factions appear to have developed that look to maintain the herd at an unreasonably low level by an excessive antlerless harvest quota. I believe most deer hunters



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realize antlerless deer need to be harvested to maintain the overall health of the herd and to protect the forest habitat. Along with proactive forest management it is reasonable that higher deer populations can exist on the landscape. I am a scientist by training and believe that appropriate scientific methods can be used to provide an outcome that is acceptable to many. Models only do what we tell them to do and by deciding to manage for a decreased population we are likely creating a scenario where quotas will be needed to accomplish the goal. I have attempted to lay out a reasoning for reducing or eliminating the antlerless quota in the public land area of southern Bayfield Co., much of which is in the National Forest that will increase the herd to a population that favors hunters. The options to do so by the CDAC are limited, but a reduction in the quota for public land would be a start. More intense study of deer populations in this area would provide data that would support or refute my observations and those of many others. The establishment of a WSI location in Drummond would also provide local data for this metric. Without reasonable changes that will result in an improved hunting experience I predict deer hunting as we know it will diminish to an inconsequential point. We are losing hunters and need to take actions that will encourage more participation starting by allowing more animals on the land. We need convincing from the DNR that models that predict this quota will still result in herd growth. Many doubt it will based on personal observations. If not the result will be the loss of revenue to the DNR, lower economic benefits to the local communities, loss of social benefits to hunters, and the removal of the potential to maintain the herd by reasonable harvesting quotas because of diminished hunter numbers.



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14706 Dear Deer Advisory Council Members, I write to you as a dedicated deer hunter of 50 plus years who has spent the last 30 seasons of his life successfully hunting the public forests North of Drummond in the Star Lake area of Bayfield County. I know the forest in this part of the county intimately. I continue to spend many days in the woods each year scouting and hunting. I know the area's traditional deer trails, the bedding areas, the acorn patches, the primary breeding areas and transition zones. I was astonished and demoralized to learn that Bayfield's Deer Council has AGAIN come to the conclusion that the public forest has recovered from the severe overkill and gross mismanagement of the herd in the past decade. By what scientific metric can you possibly claim there are too many deer IN THE PUBLIC FOREST? If that metric exists, I challenge you to make it available to the public. Of course you know it doesn't. Is it perhaps possible you are being influenced by one or two outspoken persons with close ties to the council? Do they have a vested interest in influencing your judgement? Although I have had many successful hunts over the past 30 years, the most recent 8 years have been very sad and demoralizing. This past season, for the first time in eight years of dedicated first light to end of shooting hours hunting, I actually saw my first deer on stand during legal shooting hours! In 2017 I saw a doe with twin fawns and a spike buck. That was it for the entire season! In the previous seven years I've had zero sightings while on stand and have only "cut" one or two deer tracks while walking all day seeking any semblance of hunt-able sign. In 2016 I did see two deer on one of those long walks but none on stand. There have been many days that I've walked 5 to 6 miles before crossing even a single track in the snow. I also watch for fresh tracks crossing the road each day as I drive seven miles to where I hunt. Rarely do I see any fresh tracks crossing the road. In years past there were dozens. Both of my sons refuse to make our family's once traditional 300 mile trip(s) to Drummond saying, "I have no interest in hunting all week while not seeing even a single deer". Hunter density in the area that I hunt has dropped from approximately 30 hunters down to about 3 or 4. Most have given up on the North woods and are now hunting 'down state'. Have you considered the economic impact this has on your local businesses that depend on hunters coming up from the south? The bars and restaurants are literally empty compared to years past. Consider the grocery stores the gas... There's only one explanation. It's not worth the long trip. I would be happy to take you on long walks around the six square miles of woods that I intimately know and I invite you to show me ANYTHING in those areas that suggests the forest is being impacted - even slightly - much less "over-browsed" as some with vested interests would claim. Even the Wolves were starving and have pretty much moved out of my hunting area. I implore you to please reconsider... Don't issue ANY antlerless tags for the public forest. PS: Since your last meeting in early March, the character of this winter has become significantly more severe. The past several snow storms and low temperatures will undoubtedly delay this years green-up and will increase the overall stress factor on the herd... these recent conditions will very likely have an adverse impact on recruitment this spring. Please do reconsider... act in the interests of the many instead of the few. Respectfully yours...



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14707 First, I appreciate the DNR and their efforts to maintain our resources. The ability to get out and hunt is a cultural pillar. However, I wish the state govt would support DNR more properly by keeping actual scientists around for game AND non-game species and systems. Going off sketchy opinions, hearsay, and B.S. machismo is just ruining any conversation about deer. Second, I know this won't fly but I have to say it. We need to restrict gun use during bow season. Where I hunt, there isn't an evening in bow season that I can sit my stand and not hear some nutjob banging away with a semi-auto somewhere on County land, UWFS land, &c. I realize the DNR has little power here, but we need to encourage RESPECT. There is almost no area that is really truly quiet or provides a decent all-around hunting experience. Folks cry about wolves ruining deer hunting (I don't think the facts bear that out) and then stomp around dropping 120\$ worth of led in a few minutes at sunset shooting up refrigerators they leave in the woods while I'm in my stand with nothing to think about other than the lack of deer and the decomposition of our hunting ethic. I'd rather not get a deer because I am hearing wolves in the evening than not get a deer because some dangerous yahoo is playing Rambo to make up for who knows what daddy issues. These goobers are ruining the whole deal, and I feel the woods are too dangerous to bring my daughter into the sport although I let her hunt our private land. Seriously though an entire generation is dropping hunting / fishing because of middle aged and older donkers with no teeth and fewer brains. Third, I have mixed feelings about baiting. I know you all work hard to balance it all out. I truly hate the fact that the entire county smells like cookie dough for weeks during Bear season. Not really 'hunting' IMHO. Baiting also has really changed deer hunting. I am one of the idiots who actually enjoys tracking them all year, just to get out. Then the baiting starts and all the behavior changes. This is a bigger problem down in more crowded areas like Polk Co. and so on but it does impact us up here. I'd personally like to see it completely illegal. Make us work for our deer, keep us lean and smart. Get people in the woods year round to learn behavior and habitat &c. Fourth, make ATV / UTV use illegal during season for non-handicapped folks. I know this is possible. I've helped a 92 year old dude throw a deer into his truck that he dragged out of county land hissdammnid self. Motorized vehicles change deer behavior. Maybe not as much as we'd like on the highway, but it's ridiculous on heavier trafficked roads. A lot of my whining comes down to- you guys are doing a great job, the herds are here and I appreciate your management. It's the changes in hunting culture that have impacted my experience and I know I ain't alone. Hunter behavior is really changing the animal behavior. Not sure what you can do about that, but for the purposes of this form it seems like you are putting WAY to much emphasis on opinions and anecdotes from us uneducated grumps. Stick to the real science and communicate that science clearly, and help us foster positive hunting values (respect, hard work and observation, quiet during crepuscular times, &c). Dang I wrote a whole book for you didn't realize I could type this much. Thanks for giving me the chance to avoid work long enough to earn a coffee break. Thanks.



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14708 I'm a very experienced hunter with over 40 years of experience. I own property in northern Bayfield County and have 20 years experience hunting there. In the past 10 years, deer numbers have declined rapidly and steadily. The northern deer herd has multiple challenges including an unmanaged wolf population, harsh winters and overly liberal antlerless tag allotments. Wolves, other predators and harsh winters remove any excess deer from the herd to the point that there is no need for hunters to kill additional antlerless deer. There should be zero antlerless tags issued for public land in the northern portion of the county. Prior to this winter we had a few back to back mild winters and whatever rebuilding the herd may have experienced will be quickly negated by antlerless harvest by hunters. We can't control the severity of winters and our hands are tied in regard to wolf management but we can control the number of antlerless tags that are issued. Until the wolf population can be managed responsibly and their numbers are brought to a reasonable level it is short-sighted and irresponsible to issue antlerless tags. Also, the toll taken on the deer herd by this winter is yet to be seen. It is a crying shame what has happened to the deer herd and deer hunting in northern Bayfield County. It has always been a challenge to hunt the northwoods but now it is downright futile. The areas that I hunt have an abundance of logging activity with thousands of acres of new growth. In acorn years the vast majority of acorns go uneaten. There is no shortage of browse for the deer and I find it hard to believe that there would be any problem with plant/tree regeneration. Northern Wisconsin used to have a rich deer hunting heritage but now even many of the most dedicated have given up due to the futility of it. I had plans to build a new cabin on my property in the near future but with no deer left and plans to decrease the herd I will not be spending my money in Bayfield County. It truly is a shame that what once was a great place to hunt and spend time and money has now been abandoned and myself and several of my friends who also own property in Bayfield County are now going to places like Iowa and Missouri to hunt deer. We have to leave Wisconsin to find good deer hunting... Who would have thunk it? I simply cannot understand the motives or the mentality of those who want to decrease the deer herd in northern Bayfield County. It makes absolutely no sense!

14709 I have deer hunted in Bayfield County every year since 1968 and now even live here. Most of my hunting group has about the same experience with some younger hunters also sprinkled in. This includes gun, muzzleloader, bow and crossbow. Early years were on all public land, more recent years mostly private land but with some public land. I have hunted in many other states, provinces and countries and am a very experienced hunter. So is my hunting group. We are seeing so few antlered deer on the private land we hunt we have begun to go back to hunt public land at times. The antlerless numbers on our private land are equally unimpressive (which with a couple milder winters was a little surprising.) The antlerless quota is set way too high, especially with the severity of the winter of 2017/2018. If you doubt this perspective, go for a walk in the woods, the woods, not a beaten path, as of April 3, you can hardly maneuver through the woods due to still deep, crusty snow. And there was the near month long block of sub-zero weather in December-January that makes things even worse. Seeing larger numbers of deer along highways and hillsides in sun melted areas now means only that all the deer in a given area are congregating in a few spots to try and survive by eating what's been uncovered. This gives a false idea of a larger deer population than there really is. Hunters have begun to apply for BOTH private and public land antlerless tags and then use the private land tag to register deer that were really shot on public land. (Private land tags were more readily available last year) "saving" their public land tag until the very end. With the new regulations regarding registration we believe many deer are being killed that are not being registered, I have heard numerous hunters publicly talk about their "recyclable" deer tags. Many members of my immediate hunting group are very disheartened with the quality of the deer hunt they now face. I have friends that have quit entirely because of the poor quality hunting. Lower the antlerless quota. Figure out a way to kill more predators. Go to an antler point restriction (4 pts on at least one side) to build the buck populations. Go back to validating tags (it was a moronic idea to stop that). If someone is telling you that they have to kill deer to feed their family, they are doing something way wrong in life.



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- 14710 This is only the second year since the early 2000s that the trail cams are showing an increase in deer, of all classes fawns, does, and mature bucks. I don't believe deer are the cause of lack of forest regeneration. I have had 3 logging events on my 40 in the last 15 years. After removing mostly balsam popple and spruce I have discovered numerous young oak and maple and white pine seedlings. There is a fair amount of red osier that has NOT been browsed, which you know is unusual. I believe improper forest management is your regeneration problem. A walk last fall through an oak woods on Hesse Road showed numerous oak seedlings trying to survive under a heavy canopy. The east portion of this area due to be logged shortly shows evidence of previous high grading. There is not a straight or unforked oak in this area. Having bowhunted this area for about 35 years it is only recently that there have been significant acorn production similar to more reliable crops in the past. I feel numerous early April 70 degree days followed by heavy frost have limited acorn production. Therefore a combination of climate and forestry practices are what may be limiting regeneration. It should go without saying that the heavy snow on the ground as of 04/04/2018 will have a negative effect on a herd already stressed by the constant harassment by coyotes and wolves. The herd needs to grow for several more years before reduction should be necessary.
- 14711 Hello and thank you, as I do truly appreciate the fact that you do take the time to hear the feedback from hunters of each specific area/county. Deer hunting in Bayfield County has been a family tradition and way of life every single year for about 50 years now. Beginning with my grandpa and his friends, now passed down generation to generation and new camp members. My dad, 3 older brothers and myself, including close friends and original camp siblings and such, have of course noticed a major change in the deer population and deer hunting in general. From their behavior to simply the number we see every year quite dramatically. Obviously the number of wolves has gone up significantly more than led to believe, but the number of antlerless tags available in recent years and "bonus" permits and hunts (excluding the youth hunt) is undeniably contributing heavily to the declining hunt in Bayfield county the old fashioned way. Our group does not believe in baiting nor sitting in stands all day everyday. I sure hope that everybody on the board will think logically before the upcoming seasons and not give out quite so many antlerless tags, for it was extremely noticeable after the few "buck only" years not long ago (and wolf hunting was briefly open) things sure seemed to be trending in the right direction for the deer herd in Bayfield County, in a healthy way. Thanks for listening! :)
- 14712 I have hunted in southern Bayfield Co for over thirty years and in Douglas, Iron, Ashland and Washburn as well for the 55 years I have hunted deer in Wis. I have a cabin on the Eau Claire lakes and have been retired for 10 years resulting in more time than just deer season in the area. 1. the herd is recovering but more slowly in the southern part of Bayfield Co than in the north 2. I have lots of oak saplings that are not getting chewed on my property as well as in the surrounding woodlands whereas in the late 80's I had none. 3. the weather which seemed to project an early spring in early March has taken a major detour and extended serious winter conditions as in snow depth and temperatures. This repeats the conditions from 4 years ago when major snowstorms in April not only delayed spring fishing but decreased overall deer health, reduced reproduction and extended the "most vulnerable to predators" period at least several weeks. These conditions were obviously not known yet at the March meeting but in light of these serious winter weather conditions now apparent, I feel that reducing the antlerless harvest recommendations is not only desirable but necessary to enable full population recovery goals for the southern part of the county to be met. This area should be more in line with the Sawyer County recommendations for lower antlerless harvest quotas.



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- 14713 I am very disappointed with the direction the Bayfield County CDAC decided to go with the antlerless quota for 2018. Is there no accountability for past recommendations or the direction they had decided on going? The three year population trend voted on by this same committee was a population decrease and you have voted to start that with a 6% herd increase in the first year? That doesn't make any sense at all. This fear of a bad winter devastating the population is absurd and you can not count on that to control a population and to meet the three year objective of a decrease if you are increasing the herd by 6% in the very first year. Besides the fact that this is flawed logic because you can not stock pile game and will make the winter kill worse if we do get a bad winter, the ultimate point is that if we don't get a bad winter you will end up with a need to decrease the herd by a very large percentage in year 3 and it will not be remotely achievable. I will not even touch on the fact that I feel the deer population is exploding in many areas and is creating some very real and serious problems because I have spent 3 years banging on that drum and thought I had made some progress when the CDAC voted on a 3 year population decrease. The real issue here is keeping with the prior direction that was set and being accountable for your decisions.
- 14714 I'm very concerned about an increase in antlerless tags. I wasn't seeing an increase in deer numbers on the agricultural fields around my area from the year before and having the antlerless hunt this past year should decrease the number of deer already. Increasing the number of antlerless tags hurts hunters who live near public land like myself. I own 10.5 acres surrounded by about 500 acres of public land. Even though I can manage what I harvest the access to land around me for other hunters really affects the deer numbers and how positive of a season I have. I understand areas around Mason, WI that have a lot of large agricultural fields and private land may need a different approach than a land owner surrounded by public land. On top of that I have had equal to more predator kills on my property than any other year. I'm not saying there shouldn't be antlerless tags, but I believe it is unreasonable to increase the number by a 1,000. If anything antlerless tags should decrease by a 1,000. There were a lot of people hunting last year by my house and part of the reason was they actually saw deer. Increasing the antlerless harvest by a 1,000 for this year will hurt enthusiasm for hunting because the deer numbers are already going to be down and there is very little if any predator control.
- 14715 Last year was a bust. In the 1600 acres which my family, friends and myself (a total of 8 people hunt). In the spring of 2017 we seen 3 bucks and 6 does and 8 fawns. When the Archery season started we could count 3 bucks 4 does and 2 fawns. By the end of the Deer hunting season, we were down to 2 bucks 3 does and 1 fawn. throughout the deer hunting season. We seen 8 wolfs, 34 bear, 9 coyotes, 7 fox, 5 bobcats, 3 fishers. This is the same number which were were able to identify on our 20 game cameras. In talking to the neighbors they had the same problems. We plant on our private properties 20 acres in food plots, 8 apple tree groves, 9 groves of crab apples, and 12 other variety shrubs for deer browsing throughout the property. We have planted 5000 pine trees for shelter and bedding. We have been following a strict QDM plan. The public property near by 60% has been clear cut or had a seeding cut conducted over the past 4 years. With the remaining 40% scheduled to be cut over the next two to three years. Providing plenty of brows. This past winter was hard on the deer population. I have see two deer the entire winter. We feel any increase in the number of antler less tags will continue to hurt the deer, population in this area.



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- 14716 The 2017 rules were a significant improvement from recent previous years for the area I hunt and live. I live less than 2 miles from lake s. The deer population has remained high locally but antler less permits were zero due to conditions in the forested areas of the old zone 3. The 2017 addressed the differences between public and private lands and allowed some desired population on my property and in the area. 5 deer, 2 bucks, 3 doe were harvested from the 200 acres I own. The winter population doesn't appear to be depleted, with deer moving all winter and I saw 8 deer in the 1.25 miles leading to my driveway last night. We still have snow cover but bare areas exist along the roads and the deer seem to be moving freely and browsing along the roads. Nothing green yet. My hunting goals are primarily herd control to protect my landscape plantings. Any bucks are just more fun. Also the antler less permits are an insurance policy on many occasions as it allows me to take a deer where I may not be able to positively if horns exist. My grandsons are reaching hunting ages and the antler less permits will help assure hunting success for them. Thanks for a great hunting experience in 2017 I am r Drevlow at 29905 Nevers rd washburn
- 14717 I have been trying for about 6 years to get my kids involved in hunting. 2017 was the first year they had fun because they finally saw some deer. It is not about the harvest. It is about the experience. The herd is finally coming back to a point that people are enjoying the experience. To start shooting does again, when the surrounding counties are not, is irresponsible. The forestry concerns are stupid. I grew up in Bayfield County. My friends were loggers. There was always plenty of forest and plenty of deer in the 80's. Now you say we need less deer to grow more trees. The market for trees has declined. The mills are shutting down. Most of my friends and family still in the county are running businesses. The tourism dollars brought to the county far outweigh what the county makes in forestry. Fire the forester if you need the money. However, if your goal is to continue to push hunters to eliminate deer so you can possibly get a few extra scrubby jack pine. Hope for a few possible oaks to cut maybe in 80 years (if we don't get another 10 year drought). Well then push the doe tags. Keep pushing people sitting on bait slaughtering deer to save trees. I will hunt Douglas County. See more deer there anyways.
- 14718 I wish the people of the CDAC would witness the lack of deer in the far northern Bayfield co. away from the villages. And truly would back away with shooting the few does that still live there and struggle to survive the wolves / all predators. This winter is going to do them in again. What I see while hunting now compared from a few years ago, there should not be any does shot. Please reconsider! The predators keep the population below goals. There is a huge difference between north and south Bayfield Co. You should talk to the people of North Bayfield Co. The deer are gone and the hunters have left. The bars have even closed after the second day. It absolutely floors me that you think we should decrease the herd. I'm not trying to be negative, I just don't understand the thought. I have a beautiful cabin near Cornucopia and now I spend a lot of my Hunting vacation in Missouri on public grounds where they don't allow does shot and will see numerous deer a day. This is so wrong what has happened by mother nature and people will not let them rebound. I hope you read this and not delete, I'm writing this for many of my fellow Northern Bayfield hunters. Thank you Todd Sturgul.
- 14719 One of the primary factors to judge my hunting satisfaction is seeing some deer while hunting. The population crash after the severe winters was devastating. There has been a disappointing recovery in the multiple regions I hunt across Bayfield county. I have found pockets of deer in regions with better habitat and know of a very large percentage of areas that are almost void of deer. I managed to see 1 deer during a 4 day rut bow hunt. I spent as many hours as I could in the tree in well scouted locations. I am an experienced and highly skilled non-bait hunter and I strongly disagree with the % of hunters claiming to bait in the north. The % is much higher and I believe it allows the general hunting population to harvest during low population times. I do not believe we are over 20 deer per sq. mile in most locations. I am opposed to all antlerless permits on the public land. On private land I understand the populations are higher, there may be agricultural damage and people are paying taxes on the land. Issuing permits on private land is not an issue. I will gladly support antlerless permits when the population warrants it. Thank you for your consideration.



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- 14720 There should not be an increase in antlerless deer tags, there should be a decrease. I don't think there should be more than 1000 antlerless tags available for both public and private land combined. Until spring 2017, I had not seen one fawn with a doe for 5 years straight. That's not good! The deer population has not recovered in Northern Forest land units all through the north stretching from Douglas county, WI all the way east to the U.P. in Michigan. There are too many predators. Where I live in the Moquah, WI area I can hunt during gun deer season everyday of the 9 day season both morning and evening hunts and see only the same 5 deer all season. During Bow season in 2017 from Sept-Nov I only saw one deer during 4 different hunts and I shot him. The population is not good. You should give out more bear tags and eliminate antlerless tags all together. I am an avid deer hunter of 20 years and even an elite deer hunter like myself is having a hard time seeing deer let alone new comers to the sport. You should tranquilize and truck up some of the deer from central WI(they have way too many down there) and release them up here in the north where it is barren.
- 14721 So let me understand this, 2 of the 3 Counties bordering Bayfield Counties are in an "increase the herd mode" and the 3rd bordering County is in a "Maintain the heard size" position. Most of the other Counties in NW WI, except one, are in either a maintain or increase position. HOW can Bayfield County be that different from all these other similarly located Counties? Do all those Counties deer sneak into Bayfield County when no one is looking?? Is Bayfield County so different that it is much more productive than all of these other NW WI counties?? It is beyond ludicrous that the recommendation for Bayfield County is generating over 11,000 available antlerless tags. Honestly, are there even that many deer in the entire County? I have deer hunted in Bayfield County for more than 45 years now, public, private, north, west, east and everywhere in between, and one thing I can attest to is that I see less deer now that I did years ago. Maybe we should bring in more of those evil crossbow hunters, who the DNR has vilified in the Spring Meeting questionnaire as to wiping out deer everywhere they go, if you need to cut down the Bayfield County herd.
- 14722 Not sure where ot how you get your deer numbers, but in on public land there nothing but wolves anymore! You need to do something stop killing the does, make it bucks only and put a size on them. 4 pt or better. There is nothing left, maybe in the northern unit in farm country they have deer, but not in the south or on any public land. Last 3 years I have not seen a buck and seen a total of 4 deer, that's 27 days of hunting. How in the hell am I suppose to get my kids interested in the outdoors when you can hunt 5 or 6 days all day and never see a deer, yet alone a buck! We have seen 9 wolves though and a bobcat and one Fischer. Please save the state, people are dropping like flies and numbers decline year after year. I don't want to start hunting other state but looking like I will have to. So important to give kids a chance at deer to get them involved in the outdoors, but season after season seeing nothing, no reason to buy a licence anymore and go Please help the hurd and stop killing does in the big woods.
- 14723 I don't know why you would issue a 1,000 extra antlerless tags without getting a better idea or how the herd looks for this year. There is still (on April 4th, 2018) 2 and half feet of snow in the woods and not a single agricultural field in the area has open grass available for deer to eat. I get the goal may be to decrease the population, but I find it hard that any general recommendation can be made before some actual deer numbers can be counted. Not only is the snow depth an issue, but there are a lot of predator kills here and with little to no way to manage the predators I don't know how the antlerless quota can go up. I think the quota needs to go down from last year significantly (1,000 tags or more). I've heard stories of WI hunters who have private land antlerless tags, but go to the public land to fill those tags instead. There is no real good way to manage what people do, but I think taking a year and decreasing the antlerless tags to see where the herd numbers are allows for better overall management.



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- 14724 I feel the goal should be to maintain the herd size and numbers rather than to reduce them. I feel the 3500 quota would have been acceptable had there been much more in private tags ratio over the private/public ratio despite the fact that private tag sales were not fulfilled at the 2500 quota level. The public lands are not overly populated for much of the region and this management strategy is County wide so there will be some public lands that will continue to be running well below desired deer levels and some small portions of the County that will be above desired levels. Private tags should allow people that own property to balance their herd and utilize for food as they feel and that is a good thing to be able to provide many tags for doing so as there is an abundance of numbers in those private property sects. However, the populations of those properties which are increasing the herd size calculations for quota determination should be given more of the quota calculation percentage to be in line.
- 14725 In the 30+ years of hunting in Northern WI, the number of deer is way lower than in the mid 90's. I saw very few deer this past season and hunt from several stands sites. While the number seem to be coming back, there should be very limited antlerless tags available until the total deer number get back to a more sustainable count. The past Month has been very hard on the deer and the ever increasing wolf population is really taking its toll in certain areas. There are way more deer closer to homes than in the dense forested area's. I believe this is a direct affect of the wolves and deer feeding practices. I hope the DNR will not issue many antlerless tags this year. Let the deer regain better populations. You will have better participation in the North if we have more deer. This will equal more hunter in years to come. Not a lot of fun sitting 3 days and seeing one deer. Try getting a 12 year old to do this and want to come back to hunting. Thank you Brian Korfmacher, Cottage Grove WI.
- 14726 I'm concerned on deer management overall. The county just came off a buck only tag for the last three years for gun and now we are considering shooting does and not bucks. How short sighted this looks for deer management and in its appearance this type of strategy is not effective. I've also noticed poaching is on the increase especially over the last few years and yet we have no DNR officers to help enforce. Add in the electronic tagging and now WI has made it even easier to take a deer home without ever purchasing a licence as the odds are no one is going to pull you over to see if a deer is really registered. These topics are not discussed in the survey and yet they too also will have a negative impact on the deer population. I personally believe we are losing hunters because of mismanagement, illegal activities and the inability to maintain a healthy balance of deer in the area. I never used to feel that way but the past years have put me in that camp.
- 14727 Winter going into April in Orienta Twnsnp results in deer both dying and not reproducing as successfully. Have hunted same 850 acres since 1982, when winter goes into April we find large numbers of dead unscavanged deer. Fortunately the anterless tags allowed last year should reduce the number of dead deer found. The beauty of a county versus state only advisory board is local control, locals obviously should be able to see that it is a long winter reducing the size of the herd and the anterless quota for hunting season should be reduced to a low number. This year winter should provide the reduction of deer sought by the Bayfield CDAC and allow the board an opportunity to win over the "never shoot a doe" crowd and validate the board as good stewarts. Lower the anterless tags available to reflect the winter kill that is ongoing and a month after your last meeting. I would recommend the lowest number possible of the options and still allowing some tags.
- 14728 How is it that you can manage the entire county with 1 management style. Not that long ago it was several deer management units. You can't manage the agriculture ecosystem in Mason area like the Pine barrens in North Barnes or the forested area North of Drummond. The southern part of the county doesn't have the Winter Severity Index that the Northern part of the county has. This make a lot of different ecosystems to work with. This makes Bayfield one of many complex counties to manage. You need to go back to the old management units style. The best thing to do is take all of the info that the "Doctor Deer Czar" from Texas recommended and box it up and send back to him. There are not the number of deer per square mile across the entire county consistently and its easy to prove. But you won't listen. If with low deer numbers, I still support young hunters harvesting a antlerless deer to get them involved in hunting.



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- 14729 I have been hunting in Bayfield for 10 years now and when I first arrived there were plentiful numbers of deer. I have seen those numbers decrease every year. I spend a substantial amount of time in the woods all year around and have noticed the doe levels are lower than ever. I have many cameras placed out every year and these last two years I have seen almost no fawns. Many times I will see fawns with their mothers earlier in the spring, but throughout the year the fawns are no where to be found and the same does keep appearing. It would be absolutely ridiculous to increase the number of antlerless tags and will damage the current deer herd for years to come. In contrast, predator numbers are higher than ever. On almost every hunt, or any time I am in the woods, I hear predators howling and yipping, and cross a plethora of tracks. It would be in the deer herd's worst interest to increase antlerless tags.
- 14730 We are in the Barnes area and I can't emphasize enough how the depletion of the deer herd in that area has effected the tourism fall in the last 10-15 years. We see very view hunters anymore. Resorts, taverns, gas stations closed. Our hunting group hunts this area hard with a very strong tradition. My grandfather starting in the 30's. It's terribke what has happened up in our area with the herd. We see very very fire deer. We don't understand how the neiboring county's have no anterless quotas and we do. The wolves bear bobcats etc have ruined the hunting for many years. If it weren't for tradition we would not be hunting the area and spending our money in the area. I really am confused to how this area has anterless quotas. Ridiculous. Four generations of hunting is in jeopardy because of this. We need to rethink this before you loose more money for the economy in this area. It's a shame
- 14731 I think raising the number of antlerless permits might make sense for southern Bayfield County but not northern where I hunt. In my view there is a BIG difference. I have hunted the Flag area for 54 years, this year will be 55. I have seen good herds and bad herds and the herd where I hunt is improving slightly but is fragile because of weather, predators and too many doe permits. You could dramatically increase permits for private land but realistically you cannot enforce those. People will just shoot does on public land and say it was private. I hunted 4 straight days last year and saw 2 deer. I might add that having hunted there so long I know where to look for deer and deer sign. There were very few rubs and scrapes. You need to figure out a way to distinguish northern Bayfield County from Southern. A few doe permits in the north is fine, the number you are recommending is way too high.
- 14732 Again, as last year, the Bayfield County Deer Advisory Council only considers the eastern half of the county when deciding the goal of reducing heard size for the entire county. The DNR had to step in and lower the recommended doe permits last year for this very same reason and now the Council is trying to up them again! All this while the entire western half of the county is still trying to recover from the herd decimation that happened 3 years ago from winter and wolves. NOBODY in the western half of the county wants the heard to be decreased! In fact, we are all trying to help them recover and INCREASE the population! It used to be great hunting in western Bayfield county! I sure hope the DNR steps in again otherwise, I guess, I'll sell my land to some unsuspecting fool and move on to better deer field pastures, like it used to be in western Bayfield county....very sad....
- 14733 I am very concerned about fawn survival rates in this area. Have been trapping coyotes on my own property the last 5 years. Have averaged about 6-10 coyotes caught per year. This year, I trapped 9 coyotes between November - January. 8 Females and 1 male. I have noticed a vast difference in fawn survival rates on my own property. Prior to trapping coyotes, survival of fawns thru deer season was somewhere between 10-20 percent based on my observations. The last few years, I can state that fawn survival rates have jumped to somewhere between 70-80 percent thru deer season. I now believe that predator control is the # 1 thing we can do to impact in fawn survival rates. Though not a biologist, my trapping of coyotes and observations of fawn survival, are clearly evidence of effective management. Winter severity index is beyond our control.



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- 14734 The public land antlerless quota is too high especially with the heavy snowpack still present in Bayfield County as of mid April. Its overly aggressive and a more conservative quota is needed. Unfortunately, the CDAC for Bayfield County has a well documented track record of not listening to public comments. For example, last year their was overwhelming public opposition to the three year goal of decreasing the herd but the CDAC approved it anyway. I suspect their will be overwhelming opposition again this year to the proposed antlerless quota by the public but I predict the CDAC will ignore that public input and plow forward with this aggressive antlerless quota in spite of the prolonged winter and public input received in Bayfield County this spring. A more conservative antlerless quota is needed especially on public lands.
- 14735 One thing that I think is wrong is giving someone a cheaper license after not hunting for a number of years or a first time license buyer, I have been hunting for 58 years and think it would be nice if people over a certain age got a deal, I not only hunt my self but have brought both of my sons into the hunting and all 4 of my grandchildren 3 girls and a boy. It is hunters like me that keep the sport going and continue the tradition in good years and not so good ones. I also think it would be nice if the older hunters got a choice tag as our hunting styles have had to change from walking miles a day to more sitting, and for those of us who like venison its not about the horns but about a good tasting deer, over my life time of hunting I have taken only small bucks or hunter choice does. I don't hang any horns on the wall.
- 14736 I have hunted Bayfield County since 1978. I have watched the deer hunting and its rich traditions in a mere decade decline to a point where I think it is unlikely that things will ever recover. I'm absolutely sick over the number of Antlerless deer tags the Bayfield County CDAC has shoved down the throats of hunters for 2018. It defies all logic as well as the wishes of survey respondents. All adjacent counties voted to increase or at the very least maintain their deer populations. I further feel it is inappropriate for a husband and wife team to be on the CDAC committee, especially when the husband is an employee of the WDNR. The integrity of the CDAC process has no chance in Bayfield County as long as the wishes of the rank and file hunter are completely ignored. Why even have the process anymore ? Its a complete joke.
- 14737 Bayfield county is too diverse of a habitat to dole out antlerless tags by "private and public" land. looking at deer populations near citys, towns, and ag land i agree that antlerless deer should be reduced, however if you branch out even a couple miles from these areas you will not find the same results and the herd as a whole should grow. The board that makes up the CDAC for bayfield county is lopsided and their interests are not that of all of bayfield county. Some thought needs to go into the herd management within the county and cannot be based solely off "public and private" How can every other county around us want to increase or maintain the herd and Bayfield wants to decrease the herd. I strongly disagree with managing the herd as a whole county. It does not reflect the reality of the situation. thanks
- 14738 I have been hunting in Bayfield County for 23 years. I personally have not seen a buck in 6 years and I hunt hard. All day and never get out of the woods. We average around 28 guys in our deer camp. The past 6 years have been the worst I have ever seen. We have many guys that go all gun season without even seeing a deer. Many of the younger hunters don't even want to go back up North to hunt anymore. We manly come from the Madison, WI area. My Dad has been hunting up there for to 48 years now. He personally has shot more bucks in our camp than anyone I know. However, he has not shot a buck in 12 years. The deer herd is not what you think it is... get in the woods and do some scouting. The sign is NOT there. Purposing a deer DECREASE is a disgrace and you should be ashamed of yourself.



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- 14739 The deer numbers in Bayfield Co are way way outa balance. I have many friends who hunt private and public all wooded locations. These hunters are seeing low deer numbers with more bucks than doe's. I hunt more farm land and I am seeing very very few bucks, but many doe's. So how is issuing doe tags to the entire county going to make any sense what so ever. How about issuing doe tags to the people hunting on farm lands and ton down the tags issued in the heavily wooded areas. I have heard from 5 people in the last week they have seen 100-300 deer in two small fields down by White River Ag in the evenings. Obviously the fields are providing food. Obviously areas like this can afford to have some doe's. I hunt wooded areas in Ashland Co very few deer there period. No bucks or doe's.
- 14740 We still have way to many predators. We need to separate areas of National Forest that currently are not supporting very good deer numbers. I don't like the commentary in your meetings about deer sightings. Eliminate the deer being fed and they will not be all over the road and within the communities. The National Forest lands in southern and extreme northern Bayfield county are still in need of protection. If the midlevel agricultural areas are in need of harvest than make that harvest occur on private land. We are going to continue to lose hunters if we don't allow the less privileged hunters that must hunt public land see more deer. I don't like the politics involved in deer management and I don't like the special interests having as much power as they do over this board.
- 14741 Our deer hunting crew can range in age from 70+ yrs old down to a beginning 12 yr old hunter. As you age as a hunter the kill seems to become less important, and the camaraderie and camp life become more important. For the young hunters it is hard to keep the interest and passion going if they are not seeing deer. It is harder for them to get fired up about hunting if it feels like there are not any deer in the woods. It seems for us in our area, you may get one opportunity at harvesting a buck, or sometimes no opportunity at all, so if you pass up a spike buck, that may have been your only chance. We have traditionally been a bucks only camp. I would like to see the deer herd numbers stay at a higher level so the young hunters have a better chance for success. Thank you.
- 14742 This is absolutely ridiculous to have doe harvest tags in the most northern portions of Bayfield County on public land. If you truly want to do what is best for the herd you need to split the county into the northern forested area and the agricultural area. That way you can manage the herd appropriately where it is actually overpopulated. You cannot treat them the same and with technology in this day and age it would be just as easy to manage the herd with 2 units as it would be with 1, your just being too stubborn and think you know more than the rest of us. I have had 15 cameras out in the woods for the past 3 years spread over roughly 10 miles and they show the true results, not to mention how much time I have spent in the woods checking them throughout the year!
- 14743 Decrease populations in the Northern Forest ? This is asinine. Factoring in unpredictable winters, predator numbers, and disease, decreasing populations with increasing harvest numbers indicates extremely poor judgement. Recall what happened to populations in the Northern Forest 3-5 years ago? The herd was decimated with combination of too many issued hunting tags, winter severity, and predator populations. My opinion is that WDNR is a revenue focused agency with little integrity to follow any suggestion inputs from the taxpayers and tagholders who fund their agencies. WDNR is going to face this reality, hunting numbers will continue downward. The evidence to this concern is all the new programs to gain interest! People are exhausted of the same corrupt agency.
- 14744 I own 50A of forest land in northern Bayfield Co, within 6 miles of Lake Superior shoreline. During the first decade of 2000, I used to observe 2-3 per day during summer, and at least one fawn every spring on my land. For the past 4 years, I have only observed one deer on my land on one day during an entire summer, and have observed no fawns at all. During past 3 years on my land, dogwood species, a winter deer item, has become more abundant with increased density and no observed browsing. Within a 10 mile square area of my land during 2017, I have observed a slight increase (half dozen) of numbers of deer over 2015 & 16. Therefore, in far northern Bayfield Co, north of Star Route, I recommend a zero antlerless deer quota, buck only, harvest for 2018.



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- 14745 I believe that in 2012-2013 where Bayfield county was subjected to severe winters with deep snow and cold temperatures coupled with high antler-less harvests reduced the deer heard to almost nothing. We are just starting to see the recovery now but as you know the harsh 2017-2018 winter to this date is still showing no signs of letting up and we are almost to mid April. There is a good chance that once again there will be significant winter kill on a somewhat fragile Bayfield county deer population and to issue antler-less permits for fall of 2018 coupled with what most likely is going to be a high winter kill would be setting us up for extremely lean years once again. Lets be smarter and hopefully avoid those mistakes made in the recent past.
- 14746 I walk over well over 100 miles during the deer season still-hunting and tracking deer on mostly public land. I don't know where you get your data for quotas. I can cover section after section without seeing a fresh track. I visit Bayfield co throughout the year and spend many hours in the woods scouting for deer in addition to baiting for bears. I can tell you that there are many bears, many wolves and lots of bobcats that fill those sections where the deer used to be. There may be lots of deer around the populated areas (City/lakes) where the people are feeding but you get off the roads 200 yds. and there are not many deer. Things were just looking up and then you opened up the antler less two seasons ago. Big Mistake.
- 14747 The CDAC is certainly going in the right direction. Thanks for that. In my 50+ years hunting exclusively on public land, tho, we need to have a greater differentiation between Public and Private goals. At this time and in this DMU overbrowsing, car deer collisions and forest deprivation should not be of concern on the public lands. But, it should be of great concern for the adjoining forest and habitat near private lots. The deer/fawn predator mortality factor was never included in the survey. Of course, there is nothing we can do about the wolves, but the bear population also needs to be addressed more aggressively. All in all, tho, thanks and keep plugging along. It's definitely a science, but certainly not rocket science.
- 14748 The deer population in this area is very low- spend alot of time in the area and the number of deer seen has dramatically dropped in the last 10 years. The amount of sign in the woods is dropped and the cover has canopy grown over- the area needs some clear cutting to increase browse, cover etc- you can see the browse line in the winter. My comments to allowing youth tags are we need to increase hunting- regardless- no youth- future deer management is not needed. Wolves, Bear, Coyote continue to plague the deer population. Not a biologist, but the decrease in sighting/deer has been directly related in my experience. The have become the dominant predator, not man. You have cougars in the area as well- seen them.
- 14749 I have hunted the Bayfield public land for 12 years. When I started hunting in 2006 there were a number of mature bucks being taken from our hunting group. Over the past 6 or so years we have harvested very few deer, mostly which were all 1.5 year old bucks. We have a very large group, which most people are getting fed up with the decrease in deer. We have hunters that have gone 10 + years without harvesting, and 6 + year without seeing a deer walk through the woods. The amount of Doe tags proposed for the 2018 Gun hunt is detrimental to the population. Please reconsider the amount of tags being proposed. I would like to have my 5yr and 2yr old join me someday in this experience. Thank you.
- 14750 I know there has been some concern with plant damage caused by deer and that is the reason for the decrease of the heard, if you look into the damage it is very local, not widespread. The deer are gathering in areas where humans interact with them for a few reasons. One being they feel safe from predators and the food supply is more easily available, ie bird feeders and gardens. I think doing a localized hunt to decrease the population on private lands with issues and issue city limits tags would solve the problem. In the vast of the national Forest there is not need to decrease the heard, the amount of predators and harsh winter's do a fair amount of damage to the heard. Thank you for your time.



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- 14751 After another very disappointing year of deer sightings, I feel very strongly there shouldn't be any antlerless tags available in the northern forest zone. I feel the only way to properly manage this unit is to divide north and south of highway 2. After another year of trail camera reviews the fawns are not surviving throughout the year. I also just read the public comments from last year as well as the recommendations for this year, the main concern of the cdac committee seems to be forest regeneration. Considering all the logging that is taking place in the county forest, a bigger concern should be what is going to be left to harvest in the next 10 years. Seems very biased opinion.
- 14752 To manage a healthy herd, we should never just hunt one sex over the other, that should mean regulating the number of doe permits during any given year to accomplish this goal. I hope we never go back to bucks only again.... Also, I would like to see "baiting" deer eliminated. It's unethical and it's shooting not hunting. There is a huge difference. If that means less tags sold for a few years, then so be it. I've been hunting for 40+ years and have never baited deer. A little over half of these years was spent hunting in Mn where baiting is illegal. With CWD starting to spread thru the state of WI, let's nip it now before the problem is state wide.... Thank you.....
- 14753 Bayfield County CDAC has done a good job this year and last year. I appreciate the volunteers that give of their time in this process. The increase in antlerless quota this year was wise. The goal of decreasing the deer herd is logical in that we need to maintain the herd at lower levels than we had in the early to mid- 2000's. When the deer herd is over abundant over browsing and habitat degradation follows, thus making the herd less resilient to harsh winters. Please consider holding the CDAC public meetings in a more central location within Bayfield County. Maybe Iron River Community Center/Grandview Town Hall or something similar?
- 14754 Our group saw and harvested more deer in the last year than we have for several years. the population is climbing each year. We hunt both Federal and County land. Deer numbers are up across our area. We are to the point where there is much more browse damage in the wintering areas. Many of the deer from Federal land, which is mostly oak, maple and birch ridges, migrate down to the deer yarding areas and the lake shore onto the county land, which has much more logging activity. That is resulting in a very high density of deer over the winter. I agree that the population can be decreased slightly and still offer plenty of deer for hunters.
- 14755 I believe the deer numbers in my area are finally coming back to an acceptable level after several (7) years of poor hunting. By poor hunting I mean the lack of deer sightings while in stand. I don't think the herd is at a point where we can start killing thousands of does a year again. Last year was the first year in the past 4 we were not bucks only which is a signal that the herd was low in numbers. I applaud the decision to do bucks only to get the numbers back, which is why I am worried that opening up large numbers of doe tags will only set the herd back. If hunting gets as bad as it was 4 years again I will quit buying tags.
- 14756 I think the CDAC committee has a far too biased opinions. You have 5-6 people who work together because of their jobs everyday. The true sportsman or landowner is clearly not represented. There should be at least a 50/50 representation in a voting committee to decide how to proceed with the doe kill numbers. You might as well just give the quotas back to the DNR to regulate because the sportsman and landowners are not represented properly. I hate for the biologist to have to work harder but the County itself should be broken down into different zones to better manage the herd. Some areas have to many deer and others not enough.
- 14757 I hunt the Onion River area North of Washburn. I don't see a problem of too many deer. In the last 3 years I have hunted 10 days total with total number of deer seen of 5. I also bait which I believe is the only reason I see any deer. There are barely enough deer now to keep me hunting, and there is no way to get the kids to hunt when they know the odds of seeing one. I travel 286 miles one way and stay in a hotel. if you also decide to take away baiting I believe that you will only have locals hunting the county, the cost involved to come up and not see a deer will be to high for me and many others.



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- 14758 Last fall i had 12 cameras out. I hunt in locations where most don't because of the distance. The deer herd still has not recovered and all the proposed doe tags is just stupid!! Yes i know that a lot of this is driven by the bayfield county foresters! I have a heck of a time getting my boys to hunt, there are to many nights they dont see anything and are losing interest fast! I am going to hunt Kansas this fall on public land. a good friend that live there average 6 to 10 bucks a night and shot a 155 inch deer last year. Wisconsin could have this also if they learned how to mange the herd correctly.
- 14759 The number of deer that our group sees varies greatly from year to year. I know that there are many factors that affect the number of deer that are present for deer hunting. It does seem to me that winter weather has the largest impact on deer numbers. We hunt between the East Fork of the Flagg River and the Flagg River. I have hunted here since 1969, my father in law started in 1947 and our camp was founded in 1930. None of us are trained wildlife biologists, however, we think that does should not be hunted in remote areas like ours. Let winterkill determine the amount of deer we have to hunt.
- 14760 Let's have a one buck only per year per hunter whether it be by bow, gun, or xbow. We have very few mature bucks around Bayfield county for the number of does. This would work for people hunting for meat because they can shoot does and the people that want to hunt mature bucks would have a chance instead of all these people shooting 1 1/2 year old bucks instead of does. Bigger bucks around to hunt equals bigger bucks (\$\$\$) for land owners trying to lease their land for hunting and the county for hunting and tourism revenue. We could be the Buffalo County of the north with a little effort...
- 14761 I have lived and hunted in Bayfield cty for 35 yrs. There are too many predators stalking the forest for food and the deer is #1 for all of them. The antlerless numbers are way down north of hwy 2 and need a separate zone for that reason alone. The deer numbers we do have are spotty and are moving closer to towns and populated areas for the protection of humans, wolves and coyotes are hunting those areas and pets and livestock are being attacked. The next generation of hunters comes from kids who have success and become avid hunters who pay the license fees that support the DNR.
- 14762 Though populations have increased in the past couple of years with assistance of the doe only hunt I still do not see the amount of deer I once saw in this region. I have hunted it now for 40 years. I hunt about a 65/35 mix of public and private land. I am of the opinion we still need to grow the herd a year or 2 and then get into a maintenance/break even mode. We saw the effects of overhunting and a particularly brutal winter. Why do we want to get into these big cycles of deer population. We can't help weather but we can prevent the over hunting of the herd.
- 14763 I would support an antlerless quota of 2500-3000. I think it would be prudent to take a more cautious approach with antlerless tags than the preliminary recommendations from CDAC. The prolonged winter, persistent deep snows, and delayed spring green-up that we are experiencing will have an impact on the population not only in terms of mortality of existing deer but also reduced fawn productivity. The deer herd does not seem to be that robust that it would warrant significant antlerless harvest at this time. I vote for a more conservative approach.
- 14764 All borders of our 40 acre of private property is within the Federal Forest and is also located in and part of a natural winter deer yard area. What use to be hundreds of deer in the past is now approx. a couple dozen at most. Almost our entire group has stopped hunting our area due to the fact that they see so few deer and since we only shoot bucks, it's rare one gets one during rifle season. 59 years of hunting experience in this same area so we have seen how thing have changed and not because there is a lack of food available.
- 14765 In my opinion the deer population is of Wisconsin is healthy enough to provide every hunter with a buck and doe tag. In units where the dnr is considering not issuing any antlerless tags I believe an either or tag should be issued. This would keep some hunters from harvesting a doe because they would save their tag for a buck however it would give all of the hunters whose family depend on a deer for meat to offset the cost of beef throughout the winter to harvest one doe for meet if they don't happen to kill a buck that year.



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- 14766 As stated, I've hunted in Bayfield county for over 25 years. Have seen ups and downs and would like to see a bigger deer herd. Although I saw more deer I will not shoot does till we see more deer. Unfortunately the wolf population is getting out of control and as we know they need to eat also. I also saw a lot of spiked bucks shot last year. I own property in the Barnes area and also had a bear tag. While hunting bear I encountered wolves and a lot of them at times. I feel the quota is way to high for the deer we have.
- 14767 i have lived in and hunted bayfield county all my life [79 years old] i live in iron river and have hunting land near port wing by the flag river, also own a place on lake namakagon so i travel and know the county quite well. some areas of the county have way to many deer and others like the area north of highway 2 near the flag river and port wing have way to few. some of these areas should not have any doe or bonus tags. maybe some townships could be excluded from shooting does ??????. jerry
- 14768 The deer population has increased dramatically after years of bucks only. I applaud the council for increasing the antlerless quota. The population definitely needs to be decreased for the health of the deer and the habitat. I am not sure the quota recommended will do that but the demand for antlerless permits may have reached the saturation point and I am not sure hunting effort will be adequate to harvest the recommended number of antlerless deer to try to reach the goal of decrease. Thanks for trying though.
- 14769 Bayfield County has a large population of deer on the private farmland, primarily around the Mason area, and I support decreasing the herd on these private properties. The National and County forests are practically void of deer as there is very little to eat compared to the farm country. I believe the public land sees much heavier hunting pressure compared to the private land and I feel that this public herd should have no antlerless tags issued in order to grow the population back to a sustainable level.
- 14770 The county should be divided into 3 zones, northern and southern forest and central farm zone. The northern forest were i hunt has never been back to normal since the harsh winter of 2013. It has been slow to regain traction and doe tags should not be considered for 2018. I continue to see less and less deer each fall. I was shocked when the CDAC committee decided to issue doe tags last year because according to one committee member, the deer we eating all the redpine the county was planting. Wow
- 14771 The winter is a concern of mine for this area. I believe there will be a higher winter mortality than expected due to the fact that Feb, March, and April had the highest snow amounts. I expect It will be especially hard on the fawn crop. I also expect that wolves will be successful in bringing deer numbers down with the higher snow falls. My brother has been checking his small property and has found 3 winter kills so far. This is concerning considering he is only walking a 10 acre area.
- 14772 Reducing the deer herd is a joke. I've hunted in bayfield county for 17 years and the last three have been some of the worst hunting of my life. And I hunt a large area from herbster to iron river. It has gotten bad enough that I now take a trip to Wyoming each fall just to insure my family still has venison. Try not to eat beef because of the poor health effects. Please change your decrease the population goals! I have no idea who could think we have to many deer in bayfield county!
- 14773 I live and hunt in areas with a mix of forested and agricultural lands north of highway 2. I saw more deer last fall during the hunting seasons than I had seen in the previous several years. Deer eating my garden was a larger problem last year than it had been for many previous years. The winter was moderately sever. The deer population should not be allowed to increase above its current level. I support a liberal antlerless harvest to keep the population at its current level.
- 14774 Thank you for voting on a three year decrease. The deer population is out of control. Everyone in my family has had lyme disease at least once, and the browse on tree regeneration on my 50 acres is incredibly depressing. Besides our own health at risk, I'm gonna have a serious and long term forest health issue in about 30 years when the age class of trees on my property are totally out of balance from an artificially high deer population. Save a tree. Shoot a deer.



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- 14775 Winters play such a big part in the survival of the deer herd. It seems like you shouldn't be setting the numbers until winter is over. There is still a lot of snow in the woods and more to come. I don't disagree that the herd gets too large. But if this winter continues, many will starve. Because the numbers have already been set, overharvesting may occur next fall. Or hunters on bar stools whine loudly and long that the wolves have eaten all the deer.
- 14776 I feel the deer population was just starting to recover from the back to back severe winters a couple of years ago. We as a group could see the population was down considerably. Then we started seeing a few more deer which made our hunting more enjoyable. Now I'm concerned with the severity of this current winter doing some major damage to the deer herd. I just don't feel there are too many deer in the area of Bayfield county that I hunt.
- 14777 I have seen a steady increase in deer numbers over the past couple of years, which is good. In the early 2000's, I would see high numbers of deer in Bayfield cty, but then by 2010 or so the deer numbers started dropping each year. This past deer season was very positive, as I saw more deer than in the past 5 years. I still believe that we have to do more to control the wolf population as well as the black bear population in this county.
- 14778 My biggest concern for this unit is the obvious over population of black bears and the lack of doing anything about the issue. Over the past 5 years I watch bear sightings increase on my property as well as public lands. As it is a known fact that black bears are a deadly predator to fawns and I have witnessed first hand, so I would like to see a change with regards to black bear numbers able to be harvested in this unit.
- 14779 our group of 6 hunters have been hunting the public lands in and around the port wing and herster area for many years. last year we seen a few more deer (8 for the first 4 days a season) then the year before (0). nobody is seeing deer and the hunter numbers prove that. the road that goes between the forks of the flag river use to have dozen of truck the opening weekend. this year I only counted 5. very disappointing
- 14780 My concern is the hunting areas of Bayfield county next to Sawyer and Douglas County where they have zero doe permits allocated. This area has a much higher number of hunters due the area allowing doe permits vs the counties next to it that does not. The number of hunters have increased dramatically in this area which makes the hunting experience less favorable to hunt or bring your children/grandchildren!
- 14781 The deer population has regrown to a point where they are again negatively impacting their own habitat and that of other wildlife, as well as residential landscaping and gardens. In addition, the possibility of cwd entering the population is greater with the development of a new deer farm in the County. It's time to get control of the herd for the sake of their continued health and other forest wildlife.
- 14782 There is simply not the deer numbers there should be on public land in southern Bayfield County. When a hunting camp of 10 tried and true hunters can't consistently harvest a couple decent bucks in a season, much less even see a deer on all day sits in all types of conditions there is something wrong. The population is depleted to the point of these hunters going elsewhere because it has been so pitiful.
- 14783 Wisconsin needs to put deer management back into the hands of biologists and professionals and out of the hands of politicians. I have seen Wisconsin's wildlife resources dwindle over the last 20 years and it sickens me. Wisconsin's biggest industry is tourism and we need to protect our natural resources and put money into the upkeep of our state parks so tourists will want to visit our beautiful state.
- 14784 I worked for 30 years for the USDA Forest Service. With this background, plus living here for the bulk of my 69 years, I feel that my concerns are valid. From providing meat for the table, to being concerned with cedar, Canada yew, orchid family members, and other plants; I feel strongly that the deer herd needs good scientific controls. Thank you for your excellent management! V. Ralph Bloomquist



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- 14785 CWD CWD CWD You have a chance to stop it from coming to Bayfield county right now. No private deer farms at all should be the answer. Kill every deer in that guys land in Oulu. He had no right to bring deer from his herd in Washington county. At the least make Bayfield a double fence county NOW!!! Do not wait till it is too late. The good of the many out weighs the good of a few.
- 14786 This winter, that won't end, is having a dramatic effect on the deer. The only place there are healthy deer is around places that people feed them. There should be no antlerless permits given. Only Bayfield County recommends over-harvesting the antlerless deer. Whoever came up with these deer numbers must have a different way of counting deer from the other northern counties.
- 14787 In my opinion you are grossly over estimating the deer population in southern Bayfield County. This is not farm land. Our deer numbers are not what they are dealing with in the northern half of Bayfield County. This county should be divided in half and managed accordingly. Kill off all your breeding stock, and watch your hunter numbers and tourism dollars continue to fall.
- 14788 I would love to see a statewide ban on baiting deer. In addition to adding to the chance of spreading CWD, baiting deer is a lazy person's way to hunt. It disrupts the deer's normal feeding and movement patterns, and it's not sporting. I'm on the fence about baiting during bow season, but I definitely think it should not be allowed during gun and muzzleloader seasons.
- 14789 In my personal opinion I think the DNR does not care about the the natural resources. I believe the only thing the DNR cares about is money. The more tags they sell the more money they get they don't care how many deer are in woods. Another thing is with the elk \$10 application fee 400000 Hunters that equals 4 million dollars. The DNR does not care about the animals.
- 14790 I have hunted the Pigeon Lake hills for 46 years. This past year is the first year I never saw a deer. Until you can manage the wolves and reduce the bear numbers I don't know how you can justify any antlerless hunts. Besides the cold Winter that doesn't quit this year. The hunting groups are not coming back up there to hunt because there are such low numbers.
- 14791 This management unit is too large. At a minimum this unit should be broken into a northern and southern unit or more. Population trends in the southern part of the county do not accurately represent the northern population. Political boundaries are not a good way to manage natural resources when you take in the many variables that exist in a county this size.
- 14792 What this survey does not mention is that the number of antlerless tags proposed by the CDAC is not expected to meet the goal of reducing the size of the deer herd in the county. How is it possible that the CDAC has identified the real, pressing need to reduce the herd, but isn't willing to put out the number of antlerless tags necessary to get the job done?
- 14793 I think increasing the doe tags is not a wise choice. I support keeping numbers at the 2017 levels to increase the heard in the zone, especially on public land. The number of predators being observed supports this idea. For the past five years, numbers have been way down and fewer children are hunting due to low sightings of deer. Thank you for your effort.
- 14794 '----More private land antlerless harvest tags in the southern part of the county. Ban baiting entirely! Increase bear harvest tags. ----One answer scan sheet only for Conservation Meeting questions. A white and Blue scan/answer/yes/no sheet was too confusing for most people. Meeting was set up with no tables to fill out these sheets for the questions.
- 14795 Please do not over estimate the deer population in this county. My family and group of 30 or more men have struggled so much to harvest a buck for years. I personally have only seen one small fork horn buck sense 2006. The younger hunters are starting to regret even making the trip and we are close to loosing a very Great tradition.



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- 14796 Considering winter and long spring break up may be deleterious to overall deer numbers in the forested zones of Bayfield County. I do not want to see a repeat of poor management decision made just a few years ago under silicate conditions. Finally we were getting some deer back on public land and saw an increase on private land.
- 14797 PLEASE stop trying to lower the amount of deer in Bayfield County. After close to 20 years of hunting there, I can assure you there aren't near the number of deer that there used to be. I'm seriously considering selling my land as a result. Unfortunately land prices are also reflective of the poor hunting in recent years.
- 14798 The deer numbers got so low that I quit hunting there and started hunting Michigan, When I would put out trail cameras on the public land there were more predators (wolves, bears, coyotes, bobcats) then deer. The last year I bow hunted there was 9 straight days (first week of November) and only seeing one spike. Not good
- 14799 I'm against the number of antlerless tags being proposed on public land. The population has still not bounced back and the winter now looks like its going to be harder on the herd than originally thought. Adjacent counties have voted to increase or maintain deer herd levels. Why is Bayfield County different?
- 14800 Bayfield county is so divided as to the deer #'s may be up in the lake/town and ag areas the big woods has hardly changed and along way from 10 yrs ago. To effectively manage this you should split the county up further. Obviously looking at the kill numbers throwing more tags aren't going to fix this.
- 14801 I've hunted this unit all my life. There is endless habitat to support high deer numbers. I have never seen starvation issues. Even back in the day when deer number were high. Now I hunt all season and maybe see 5 deer. There is no reason to harvest does & fawns even close to the numbers suggested.
- 14802 The number of proposed antlerless tags is WAY too high. We are coming off and very tough winter. Have some common sense. This herd is just starting to rebound. We need to grow this herd for at least another 5 years before we will have a huntable density. DO NOT kill that many does in 2018.
- 14803 Please do not over kill the does!! This winter is shaping up to be severe with some starvation. For once please acknowledge the general public, otherwise why have a survey!! The overall hunting public in Bayfield County does not support increased antlerless harvest!!! Listen to us.
- 14804 I'm a strong believer in healthy balance, so predators are normal, even helpful for herd health. But if the DNR says a healthy population supports a hunt, that will help both deer and predators. I am against baiting. I think CWD is the greatest threat that needs to be fixed!
- 14805 Once again Bayfield County is waging a war on antlerless deer. We have are not yet finished with a potentially severe winter and they are already crying for more antlerless Kill. If allowed this county will once again have an almost unhuntable deer density. So sad.
- 14806 This winter is dragging on late into the spring and will take a toll on the herd...resulting in a lesser need for antlerless tags this fall. Additionally, I don't feel that the herd was that abundant going into winter. I would support a quota closer to 2500.
- 14807 How can you introduce a predator like wolves and have no control mechanism? I sat in the meetings and the big selling pitch was at 350 and we could trap and shoot all wolf over 350. When are you going to learn you cannot stock pile deer in northern Wisc?
- 14808 The DNR should not have a antlerless harvest in Bayfield Co until the wolves are delisted, and wolf numbers can be reduced by trapping and hunting under state control. The wolf packs in northern Bayfield county have been devastating to the deer herd.
- 14809 This "Northern Forest" unit is vastly different for how much ground it includes. I recommend splitting into separate units. West of Cty HWY A and East of Cty Hwy A are so different in terms of county land vs farmland and the deer population itself.....



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- 14810 The wolf population is out of control in Bayfield county. The deer population started to rebound when the antlerless season was in force a few years ago however it went right back down the tubes last season. STOP THE DOE HARVEST IN BAYFIELD COUNTY!!
- 14811 I do not mind the decrease...I had one of my most enjoyable seasons on the national forest in 2017 because I didn't see another human track in the woods. For all those interested in hunting Bayfield county, stay home, there are no deer;)
- 14812 I am extremely concerned about the lack of action on control of CWD. Feeding and baiting are a threat, but by far the biggest threat is game farms. Game farms need to be abolished unless the rules governing them are radically changed.
- 14813 There are many areas the national forest in this unit that do not hold any deer and on my private land there is evidence that the population is low due to the fact that the growth of new trees is not inhibited in any way shape or form.
- 14814 What i observed last season I can't believe there are doe tags available in the forest and shouldn't be for at least two more years. Now wolfs are another matter, on thanksgiving day more wolf tracks were seen than deer.
- 14815 Bayfield County needs to be split into three management units: Southern Forested area, Middle Agricultural area, and Northern Forested area. Also the deer herd is NOT recovered yet, lower the number of antlerless tags!
- 14816 It's time to give equal antlerless permits to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of deer. For CWD reasons and private land owner using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 14817 Stop asking for gun season genocide. It's downright dangerous on public land during gun season. Instead, make the farmers that have 60 deer standing in their 40 acre clover field in Mason shoot more deer!
- 14818 BAN or Tighten Reg. on DEER FARMS. There is NO reason to have them other than \$\$\$\$\$. Due to severe weather in this area, DO NOT overkill with antlerless tags. I have seen the results of this in the past.
- 14819 Please outlaw baiting. It has ruined natural deer movement and increases deer population. The real fun of hunting is not sitting over a corn pile. I don't know one person that baits legally.
- 14820 Our property is in southern Bayfield and there just are not the deer numbers and believe me our group hunts hard and long and we know what the deer population is in our area and it's poor
- 14821 You don't have a clue if you think the deer population should be decreased in Bayfield County. Look at how many fewer hunters we have, because we have so few deer. STOP KILLING DOES!!!
- 14822 The March meeting was not clearly communicated through emails as in the past. It is frustrating to know that a lot of information about the upcoming hunting season has been already set.
- 14823 We are not going to have to worry about decreasing the deer Heard in 2018 because the winter is doing it for us. With this winter hanging on like it has it is killing deer every day.
- 14824 bayfield county experiencing a long cold winter.frozen nights with a snow crust making it easy for predator pursuit of deer..must be considered when antlerless quotas are set
- 14826 This unit went from no does taken for 3 years and the deer population was starting to come back nicely. last year you allowed does to be taken and I think that was a mistake
- 14825 Stop the online/phone tags and go back to having someone truly register them. That helps the local economies and helps people avoid harvesting deer and not reporting them.
- 14827 I have 2 sons that live in Bayfield County and I hunt with them. Traveling between their homes after dark is a challenge because there are so many deer crossing the roads.
- 14828 I hunt on public land and have not seen many deer the past few years. I would not support harvesting of antlerless deer until the population has rebounded.



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- 14829 2017 observations near Mason are a healthy buck herd 2-4yrs old. Very few doe, yearlings, and fawns observed as compared to preceding years.
- 14830 I stopped hunting this area due to not seeing enough deer. I hunt other areas now. Would consider returning if more deer numbers.
- 14831 Zero doe tags means ZERO doe tags. For everyone! To include youth and military (I recently retired from the military).
- 14832 Deer numbers in this area are still down considerable so the number of antlerless tags should be reduced not increased.
- 14833 Deer numbers are coming back up finally but the number of adult bucks is still much lower than I feel it should be.
- 14834 The overall deer population is still too low in Bayfield county. Also the predator population is still too high.
- 14835 The doe-to-buck ration is horrible. I would shining and see around 10-15 times as many does as I would bucks.
- 14836 We really need to reduce the duration of the crossbow season. They are too effective, rivaling a rifle.
- 14837 We now have more coyotes and wolves than deer everywhere around where we live in Bayfield county
- 14838 Stop the over harvest of the doe population on public land in southern Bayfield County.
- 14839 Same old problem, too many deer on private land and too few in the national forest.
- 14840 It should go back to bucks only for a few years to get back to good deer numbers!
- 14841 Have more wolves, coyote and bear on my cameras and in the stand than deer.
- 14842 Would suggest a split of 25 (pubic) to 75 (private) antlerless split.
- 14843 Put a STOP to any form of Baiting for deer!
- 14844 Thankyou for allowing public input.
- 14845 too many wolves
- 18010



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Brown, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

52 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 37
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
I hunt in this unit: 45
General interest in this unit: 8

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 38
Bow: 30
Crossbow: 23
Muzzleloader: 17

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 20.58
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 32
Mostly Private Land: 4
Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 2
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 4
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 0
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 11
Fewer: 15
Same: 19
More: 4
Many More: 3
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	2	3	26	13	8	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	2	24	16	8	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	12	20	10	5	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	1	11	23	14	2	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	1	13	22	10	3	3

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	4	31	17	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	20	30	0	2

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	20	28	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	33	18	1
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	5	45	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.37
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.20
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.61
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.24
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.12
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.61
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.47
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	1.86
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.57
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.27



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Brown, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

14846 Referring to the question around zero antler tags and only doe tags to reduce the herd is a bit odd to me. If we are willing to approach the subject of buck restrictions why are we not willing to put in antler restrictions instead of all or nothing? You still allow the does to be taken to reduce the herd and only are taking mature bucks IF you get the chance. I think its sad what Wisconsin is reduced to when comparing mature buck kills to other surrounding states like Missouri or Kansas to name two. We open the flood gates for all hunters to come to Wisconsin and kill, A ,deer regardless of quality, while others either have points, higher price tags, or limited amount of tags. The amount of land owners in WI that travel to our surrounding states like IL, MO, and KS is pretty sad as I used to think WI was a top tier state for quality deer but motives of WI hunters show differently. Putting this all into context my view may be totally different from another persons view but the reality is we have a lot of WI hunters leaving their own private land to hunt other states due to limited chances at a quality whitetail buck. I consider myself a meat hunter first as well as a trophy hunter, I like to take my doe for the venison and wait for a mature buck. When I say mature that can mean a lot of different things but mainly age and a quality of rack. I am not even talking a monster 200 inch deer just your average 130-140 inch deer.

14847 I highly support the liberal season framework to allow hunters ample opportunity to harvest deer during extended seasons. I hunt solely public land and I often find the best opportunities during the holiday hunt and extended archery season when hunting pressure is decreased on public lands. It would be interesting to know how many people selected Brown County for their free antlerless tags to get an understanding how many public land tags were sold in the county not just the bonus tags. This may help better understand the pressure that is placed on the public lands and help better set the number of bonus tags or free tags to offer. I would like the CDAC to have the ability to monitor deer harvest on public land throughout the season and have additional tags available for sale after the gun season for late season archery or the holiday hunt. If hunters are successful early in the season but no tags are available for purchase than it limits their ability to participate and help the CDAC achieve their desired quota. If the online harvest shows the county is within 20% of the quota than these additional tags would not be open for purchase.

14848 I have hunted Brown County for 23 years and I am a land owner. I spend on average over 45 days in the field hunting with a bow, gun, and muzzleloader. I oppose holiday hunts, youth hunts, and antlerless only hunts. The additional pressure put on the animals during these hunts does more harm than good in controlling the herd as the animals become more nocturnal. I support antler restrictions as a means of controlling the herd, I also would support an extended muzzleloader season, especially with the success rate of late season bow and the temperatures a hunter must endure in Wisconsin, I would like to see a muzzleloader season structured similar to Iowa. We need to stop issuing so many tags, unfortunately they fall into the hands of people that I believe to be some of the most unethical hunters, they are there for the kill, not the sport. 3 kill tags is excessive for a big game animal, I have been observing the deer on the property for quite some time and they look as healthy as I have ever seen, the current cover crops that are now planted play a huge factor as farmers are now planting winter cover crops.



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- 14849 Comment 1: I'd much more support the decreasing of herd numbers and taking antlerless deer if the following were put in place: 1. Ban baiting: baiting increases disease among deer and allows people to over-bait. This contributes to poaching, shooting immature deer, and generally breaking laws. 2. Implement an antler size restriction. Currently, people in this zone shoot any buck that walks. The repercussion of this is that people that want bigger bucks stop shooting does because they are unhappy. Make people happy by implementing antler restrictions so bigger bucks have a chance to see 3 or 4 years old, and more people will be will to reduce herd size while improving the doe to buck ratio. Improving the doe to buck ratio would be huge all around.
- 14850 STOP,,, The antlerless only seasons, special kids hunts etc... get back to basics and have our bow season and gun season... you've already got the ridiculous rule that a 2 year old can buy a tag!! Its only a path for idiots that are meat hungry shoot too many deer. Last year and 2016 were terrible seasons for both archery and gun hunters in our area... I saw the fewest deer last year as I've ever seen. Give each deer hunter a turkey tag!!! They are a menace!!!! Royal screw up bringing those things back to Wisconsin... many people may not agree with my comments, but It is MY opinion, and I'd like to be heard. I've hunted for 42 years and I'm disgusted with the direction things are going.. Thank you for asking for input.
- 14851 I don't understand how the holiday hunt or extending thru January hunts are helping. 1700 antlerless deer were harvested and your goal this year you want another 800. You think it will be accomplished by hunting in the coldest part of the year? The metro areas only had 29 antlerless deer harvested. If you cannot get your goal numbers between September and December then you will not get them. Oppose these hunts and tell the dnr to come up with something that will actually attract people to hunt. Also other outdoor recreational sports exist and these hunts are overlapping, causing unnecessary issues.
- 14852 I hunt on 5 acres in Brown County and would like to see Wisconsin adopt an antler point restriction on bucks. I have hunted out of state and noticed that in states that have restrictions on antlers it protects younger bucks and allows them to reproduce. I see lots of young bucks on tailgates and very few antlerless deer. But when I hunt, I see almost all antlerless deer and very few bucks. I am not opposed to the harvest of antlerless deer at all, just would like to see us grow the bucks in my county.
- 14853 I am confused as to why there were more bonus antlerless tags sold than were available for public land. The survey stated 50 were available however 63 were sold. Also, I would never support an antlerless only season. On another subject the youth hunts are fine for a first time hunter, however, allowing youth to shoot deer year after year is not right. The youth season was to get them interested in hunting, not to enable them to harvest deer every year with extended seasons.
- 14854 I have lived and hunted in this unit the last 4 years now. This county is amazing with the lack of deer numbers. I hunt many other areas of the state as well, and this county has the lowest number of deer I have seen around the state. This may be due to the vast majority of the county being urban and the amount of public to private land I have access to is minimal, but, I still do not seem many deer in our neighborhood (urban Lawrence township).
- 14855 I think they need to go to a point system on shooting mature bucks. I think this would open More land up for shooting doe. Go to like 8 point buck or bigger. More people might be open to letting other hunters shoot doe on their property if this happens. Another thing I would be open to would be limit to one buck per season for bow gun or muzzleloader. I believe this would result in more doe being shot.
- 14856 Enough already ,with the extra hunts. Especially the holiday hunt. That week when the grandkids are out of school is a great time to get them out with the rabbit hounds. There is no more fun then teaching a young person how to hunt with and how to handle hounds safely . To much emphasis is being put on deer hunting .
- 14857 My wife and daughters are crossbow hunters. At this point if crossbows are eliminated they will both stop hunting all together. They are unable to pull back a compound bow, and are not fans of guns. We make it a family outing when we bow hunt, so if crossbows were band i would be hunting by myself.



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- 14858 I support shorting the crossbow season. Crossbows should be treated as a firearm and should have a shorter season with limited weeks. Since introducing crossbows hunting land has become over populated and I have found more wounded deer from them.
- 14859 I believe the county should follow the metro extended January season for archery. I have family land within a mile of metro full of deer. I have avid bow hunters willing to put in the time to reduce the over population.
- 14860 if you want lower deer numbers give out more tags. free tags. public and private. that's if lower numbers is your goal. if your goal is to make money on bonus tags than charge for tags.
- 14861 The metro zone in Brown County is too far south and should be moved at least six miles to the north. It is completely farmland and ten miles from DePere.
- 14862 Leave the group hunting alone and stick and string is stick and string whether it is a crossbow or a compound bow they both are bows
- 14863 Deer numbers in New Franken area are way too high. 30-50 deer can be seen in farm fields around new Franken swamp .
- 14864 We need to separate the Metro zone from the rest of the county and treat it as 2 different things
- 14865 Would prefer all of Brown County to Extend Bow Season to end of January instead of just Metro.
- 14866 Grey Wolves in Wisconsin? NO!
- 18011



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Buffalo, Central Farmland

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131 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 54
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
I hunt in this unit: 118
General interest in this unit: 23

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 100
Bow: 90
Crossbow: 42
Muzzleloader: 47

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 24.41
Maximum: 63

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 97
Mostly Private Land: 15
Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 4
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 29
Fewer: 45
Same: 47
More: 7
Many More: 3
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	4	5	45	32	43	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	7	43	41	34	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	5	43	30	33	18
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	7	45	78	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	40	85	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	52	73	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	22	103	5
		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a Zero Quota is adopted...				
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.48
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.83
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.42
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.80
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.20
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.20
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.57
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.33
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.53
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.98
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.50



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Buffalo, Central Farmland

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14867 I am concerned about the trends of deer hunting and, in turn, management in my county. It seems as though people are only concerned with getting themselves a big buck- I can't blame them- but as a result, there is a low quality of overall deer population management. There is a very low number of deer harvested each year in Buffalo County, almost certainly due to the focus of the big buck. I have heard hundreds of stories of hunters in my valley and those adjacent that will watch even twenty deer walk by without shooting because there were no big bucks. However, it isn't just the people causing the harvest numbers to be lower. The deer know where they will be safest: land that nobody hunts on, places where they are treated like pets, and properties that don't have enough hunters to cover their entirety. The last of these is particularly interesting. Typically, such situations happen when an absentee hunter has dozens or even hundreds of acres, and believes they need all that space to get the big one. That only compounds with the increased sense of competition rather than cooperation, with people no longer holding drives, landowners fighting over 'whose deer' was shot, and more. All of that leads to a smaller harvest. People will complain that there aren't any deer during hunting season, but as soon as the shooting stops thousands of deer come out of nowhere to repopulate the county. There are other issues too. Absentee landowners and the absurd cost of land due to the overcommercialization of our bucks creates a massive disparity between the perceived wealth of our county and the true state of its citizens, which most notably affects schools. My school district recently lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in state aid because we are deemed 'too wealthy', despite over one third of our students being on free/reduced lunch and those absentee landowners who drive up the average receiving MFL benefits and not sharing the cost of most of our expenses. So, overall, there's a lot that I am not happy with, most of it being out of the control of the DNR. (I apologize for making you read this rant- I appreciate you and your time!) However, I believe that there are some measures that can be taken that can begin to address many of the aforementioned issues. I suggest looking at the options of having antlerless-only hunting for one year- potentially even cycling it every five years, for example- and/or requiring an antlerless deer to be harvested to use a buck tag. The second option especially would help with population control with the goal of reducing the deer population in Buffalo County, while both (especially the first) would decrease the 'big buck' attitude that has contributed to many of the issues I have mentioned. However, they are here as food for thought, and the DNR personnel are the experts who will be making all decisions. Thank you for reading my response, and keep up the good work managing Wisconsin's wildlife and natural resources!



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- 14868 I understand that the issue of continuing crossbow hunting is up for debate. I am 100% in support of continuing to allow crossbow hunting AS IT IS CURRENTLY allowed. I would be very much opposed to pigeonholing that subset of weapon to off times or having its own dedicated season. I hunt with a vertical bow as well as a crossbow and would not like either limited beyond the current regulations. Furthermore, crossbow hunting has opened up opportunities to increase the number of people participating in the hunting experience. My niece has harvested her only deer using the crossbow, a feat that pretty much would not have been achievable without its inclusion. My two daughters recently completed the hunter education program and both are excited at the chance to use a crossbow this fall to harvest their first animals if allowed. Both also shoot vertical bow, but lack the confidence and strength to ethically take an animal. Removing the crossbow option would not only exclude them from participating this season, it probably would turn them off for good. As much as I would like to say that it wouldn't, I cannot chance missing the opportunity to get two more youth hooked on hunting instead of feeling left out or incapable due to such regulations limiting the use of the crossbow. I strongly urge you to continue to allow the use of crossbows at the current capacity at least, and not impose restrictions of any sort on them. Please, let's not continue to make it harder for the youth or anyone for that matter to start to enjoy the outdoors and the wonderful resources that it provides.
- 14869 What Buffalo CTY needs,,,, more land to hunt,,, most family farms know longer are present. There is little to no hunting pressure anymore,,,, as I said I have been hunting there for 34 yrs. There are just as many deer maybe more but you don't see them,,, You hardly hear A shot on opening morning,,,, and that was never the case not even 10yrs ago,,, With the lack of hunters in the wood's !!!!!!!!!!! is the problem, In some way the DNR has to start giving Tax brakes to land owners so some people can get out and hunt again!!!!!! Deer hunting is becoming A Rich mans sport,,,,!!!!!!!! if you can't afford to lease you can't hunt!!!!!!!!!!!!,,,,, and you people wonder why,,, hunters are dropping out,,,,!!!!!! Know one can Afford it any more,,, What coast my son and I \$500.00 4yrs agoe,, now cost almost \$2000.00 !!!!!!!!!!! gas, room and land lease,,,, I only have an income of \$26.000 per year.!!! And I raised my son by my self,, from the day he was born.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! And what is wost upsetting you want more deer killed in Buffalo cty,,, and then charge F!@#%^&. \$12.00 for extra tags,,, really. ... Your just making it harder and harder for parent's to bring there children in to hunting,,,, Keeping add more rule's some dumb as A box of rock's !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! with all that said stop,,, trying to please the artis, hunter and help the few hunters that are left
- 14870 deer hunting is ruined with all the big money in it now. These big money hunters think that there is a 30 point buck behind every tree and they refuse to shoot any does. you can give out a billion bonus tags but the big buck hunters won't shoot any does, big bucks will only quench the thirst of their egos. the increase in woodland prices from these big buck hunters buying up woodland has raised property taxes in many areas and locked out the locals from buying any affordable woodland. these big buck hunters make it impossible for snowmobile recreation because they believe snowmobiles scare off "their" deer. the later seasons will make it impossible for snowmobile clubs to get any trail work and signage done because the landowner doesn't want them on their land until the end of the season and if that goes until Jan. 31 they will be pounding trail signs in frozen ground. How many people need to be killed in car/deer and motorcycle/deer accidents before something is done about these overgrown rats. our own family farm has been ruined because of deer related disputes and disputes with neighbors. deer hunting is not what it used to be and the herd needs to die off. I see a deer I shoot it like a worthless rat it is and leave it lay. deer are not a resource but a disease and blue tongue would be to good for them.



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- 14871 I have a difficult time with how the units are measured. Although this unit maybe recognized as a high number area, there are certain pockets that have large numbers and there are other areas that lacking deer. I truly believe the introduction of coyotes (and now with hunters seeing bobcats, mountain lions, bears, and wolves in and around our area) has diminished the population to an all-time low in my hunting/living area. The addition of crossbows and a million of "special" hunts, has diminished them further. I appreciate the fact that the DNR is taking a lot of the challenge to get more people in the woods (ie.. crossbows, warmer weather, more opportunities) but by doing so you are creating a false sense of success and hunters do not stay with it for the long haul. My wish is that rules are created to please the current Wisconsin everyday hunters in mind and to not make rules for hopeful new hunters or wealthy out of state influence. By doing so, we feel oppositional to what the DNR is trying to do. Work with the traditional hunters of Wisconsin and we will help you figure out the over population issue. Keep trying crazy different things and you lose my trust.
- 14872 It does not matter how many doe tags your will allow, the land owners are choosing to harvest a doe or not. You could give out 10 and some will choose not to shoot does at all. We personally did this on our farm a few years back after having earn a buck. We were surrounded by Outfitters who had to take a lot of does and we had our numbers drop. It took us 5 years to get back to a healthy status. I don't believe we should have a Doe only Holiday Hunt that limits Bow Hunters from harvesting a Buck. I believe you'd have more hunters out if you allowed them to Bow Hunt during the Holiday hunt and harvest a Buck. A lot of feeding patterns change and deer are active during the daylight hours and opportunity to harvest a mature Buck is back. I didn't go out for the Holiday Hunt because of only having a chance to harvest a doe. But If I would have had a chance to kill a Buck and a nice doe would have came by I would have harvested her with my bow. I believe there are a lot of hunters like myself that feel the same way.
- 14873 Deer Hunting is very different than when I started hunting about 28 years ago. It was a family gathering like holidays and we moved deer between neighbors in the afternoon after sitting in the mornings. Now the almighty horns have taken over. The ability to enjoy the land by respectfully using trails with permission is nearly gone too, as the thought is traffic in the woods sends the deer away and stay off my land philosophy. I have seen the deer graze with my animals and the more time spent in the woods riding, hiking or on an ATV the less cautious the deer become. All in all I no longer hunt because access to hunting land is difficult and the comradery is gone, but my children do hunt. There are plenty of deer in this county. The next time one hits my vehicle I would like to post the photo of it in the paper and ask all those who like to claim "ownership" to pay for my increased vehicle insurance premiums and costly repairs "their" deer caused.
- 14874 I recommend NOT changing the current cross bow season. At almost 60 years of age, it is too cold to be hunting in late November. My husband, mother and hunting partner are all over 60 years old. My mother will be 80 years old this fall and cannot gun hunt most of the time because of bad weather. I know many people who hunt with a crossbow because the weather is better in Sept. and Oct. than November or have a disability or are just too darn old to hunt in the cold. Yes, the harvest numbers are up with the crossbow but In my opinion it is because crossbows have more power to drop a deer and wound less. Before crossbows, almost everyone I know hit at least one deer each season they could not find. There were many more deer being killed with compound bows, just not recorded because they didn't find the wounded deer. At least anyone over 50 should be able to use a cross bow during the full archery season. Thank you for listening.



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- 14875 I have lived on the same 100 acres for the past 20 years and have seen a huge decrease in the deer population since the Earn a buck program(whatever year that was). I have witnessed many black bear and killed one three years ago and in our area and feel there are more black bear than the DNR thinks and would like to see more kill permits for this area. Due to our extremely steep hills and valleys predator hunting is very difficult, thus the coyote population is booming. Coyotes and black bear are wiping out our fawns. Last year I sat in my bow stand in early October to watch 4 adult does come through without a single fawn. Bobcats are increasingly common on my trail cameras as well, they will also trim the fawn population. I don't have an answer for the coyotes as they are very cunning and hard to hunt. Perhaps opening up more permits for bear and bobcats would be a help the deer herd near Waumandee, Wi. Thank you!
- 14876 I believe extending the season will put more stress on herd that has already been chased for months and now it'll be colder with snow and ice covering food sources. Most people are already hunted out by then too, or if they are out there would likely be chasing antlers and thus not affecting overall numbers. I don't think giving people more antler less tags equals them shooting more does because not many families can use much more than 2 or 3 deer. I feel earn a buck hurt hunting numbers so a doe only season may totally back fire. I have no problem shooting a tasty doe, but Buffalo county is a trophy buck destination and has that draw for a reason. I feel you may increase hunter numbers by lowering resident license prices. The difference can be made up by increasing nonresident licenses as they are pretty cheap compared to other states. I'd also be in favor of extending youth hunts to a week long.
- 14877 I propose no change to the bow or crossbow hunting seasons. I have heard there was an effort underway to shorten the crossbow season to avoid conflict with bow hunters. I am totally against that. For years the bow hunters have had advantages over harvesting more and bigger buck than other hunters due to the fact that they have a long season and it is during the rut. Gun hunters do not have that luxury. I just started hunting with a crossbow and feel that it adds no extra benefit to hunting than a common bow. The newer compound bows and sites used by regular bow hunters are no different than that of many crossbows. Plus many of us use crossbows simply because of our age, strength, or inability to hunt with a regular bow. Don't punish us simply for our age or disability. Leave bow and crossbow season as one, it is a bow season (all types of bows).
- 14878 The only way to control the antlerless deer herd in Buffalo county, and others is to go to an earn a buck system again. With all the leasing going on now and the industry worshipping big bucks the private property has done away with the family hunts where any deer was a trophy. The hunting heritage has really suffered in the past 10-15 years with the chase for the big buck. Our nonresident license fee could easily be doubled. Nonresidents are paying outfitters over \$3000.00 for a 4 day hunt. The outfitters laughed about earn a buck when they were tagging the same deer over and over again from car kills or a hunter..... I fear disease or unwanted predators overtaking this unit as well as the rest of Wisconsin. I am absolutely disgusted with the deer farms that have introduced CWD through many parts of our state with low to no oversight from our DNR.
- 14879 I have hunted and lived in this unit for 18 years and have witnessed an intense decrease in #'s of deer. For 2016 and 2017 I hunted every day of the seasons and DID NOT SEE A DEER! This is a very dramatic change. I vehemently believe we are over harvesting deer and specifically antlerless. I speculate that the DNR is intentionally reducing the deer herd because of fears about CWD. I think that is an over reaction. If CWD is a concern, then lets regulate it at it's source which are deer farms. Why reduce the general public's deer for sport hunting and let the main cause go unhindered? In a perfect world, I'd recommend closing deer farms and allowing for one, 10 day gun season of any sex with a limit of 2. I would not extend any bowhunting season because I believe the unintended, unreported mortality is already high enough.



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- 14880 In the 2017 season our group included 6 hunters. Only 2 hunters. saw deer the entire season and only 1 was harvested. (Same hunters as 2016 but 2 deer were harvested.) I have not personally seen a deer during the season for 2 years, although I was successful getting a deer in 5 of the prior 8 years. I don't know why this occurred because during March I regularly saw 12-18 deer in herds in my fields. I do know an adjoining neighbor has about 30 "ag tags" which he gives to a friend. He fills virtually all of those tags, many in the fall. This severely restricts the deer population until usually about February. Unfortunately for me and my fellow hunters, this works toward your goal of reducing the overall herd size. I fear that my out of state friends will no longer come to hunt due to lack of opportunity to bag a deer.
- 14881 We see fewer and fewer deer each year, particularly does/fawns. We hunt more hours each year. We have more cameras out than ever. Not sure where your data is being compiled from - perhaps a few larger farms with more concentrated deer numbers? Buffalo County is nearly all private land. One idea: If there are a few select landowners that want deer numbers decreased, consider issuing extra 3 antlerless tags to those individually, if they own more than 50 acres, for example. No need to affect the entire county, particularly where deer numbers are way down. Also, hunters will pay for extra doe tags if wanted. The state is missing out by just GIVING tags. Charge \$20 or more for each. Saw many more coyotes afield and on camera last year. Is there a way to advertise/promote more coyote hunting?
- 14882 Instead of these meetings that most people can not make, we need to just a surveys sent like this when there are topics to be voted on.....we are all in the system that register deer online, why can't we vote online...then you would get a real cont on how people feel...not just the few that can make the meetings...i also am VERY AGAINST these crossbow hunters being able to hunt all season....it is outrageous...please implement them to a 1 or 2 week season...of course I support them for the way it was for the elderly and disabled...but to give them the full archery season with a 100 yard shooting weapon will only kill the sport....and with no age limit....the kids will never know what archery truly was. i will try to make the meeting as I know there is a question on this....Thank You.
- 14883 Deer population is down 40% where I live. This past year I am counting only 10 deer coming out into my fields. I usually would have 25-30 during the spring. Can't get any quality bucks on my property. I think you should increase the buck tag for Wisconsin \$10 dollars higher. Keep the antlerless tag the same price. It would keep the neighbors from shooting everything that moves. They would have to hunt rather than just kill. Also i think there should be a higher tax bracket for the land owner that only uses the land for hunting and recreation. They should not be able to get tax breaks if they are not farming the land. If you farm the land then keep the taxes down.
- 14884 There needs to be some kind of regulation on outfitters in buffalo county to limit number of hunters or bucks taken 90% of the bucks taken by outfitter clients are 2 1/2 or younger deer they are completely destroying these year classes over the last 5 years the number of mature bucks have fallen almost completely off a cliff because outfitters lease land all around private land owners and their clients are killing all the bucks we are trying to let mature they are profiting by damaging the deer herd just like any public resource outfitters should be regulated before they completely decimate the age classes of these deer we are trying so hard to manage correctly
- 14885 Giving 3 antlerless tags to every hunter is way to many. One or at the most two is plenty. I spend lots of time hunting and scouting Buffalo CO and yes there are plenty of deer but there is also almost unlimited food and south facing slopes that melt off in winter. I also hunt in northeast corner of Monroe CO in the township of LaGrange and see more deer there but cant shoot any there. I know its difficult to micromanage the entire state but these are the two areas I know and to be able to shoot 3 in one place and almost none in the other is crazy when if anything there are more deer in Monroe CO. Please consider. Thanks



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- 14886 If decreasing the population is a goal is there a chance the DNR can reduce bonus tag fees and entertain raising the out of state licenses? I think the Crossbow season should be separate (shorter). I disagree with the holiday hunt as I am an avid bow hunter and it cuts into late season with muzzleloader and T-zone, (I do like and agree with the late T-zone in Dec.). Great idea sending this out giving everyone a chance to voice their opinion - I did hear 80% voted no on Holiday hunt and it still moved forward however I don't believe everything I hear. Thanks for the opportunity!
- 14887 Having an antlerless hunt immediately following firearm season in December along with an antlerless holiday hunt is overkill. If you want to decrease the herd you have to do more than give away tags. Provide options such as a reimbursement on tags/licenses or an option to purchase an additional buck tag after filling 2-3 antlerless tags. On top of that, promote donating additional antlerless harvests to those in need. A lot of families could be fed during the holiday season with the meat from these additional harvest opportunities, but not by simply handing them out.
- 14888 Buffalo County is mostly private land. Many of the old family farms that were once owned are owned by absentee land owners. Where these large areas of land are it doesn't matter how many permits you give away or offer to sell, they are going to keep the numbers where they want them. What the problem is away from these large managed areas the deer population is getting very low. I feel if they cut back the permits the deer population on the large managed tracks will not change and the normal areas will be able to increase the population which I feel is needed.
- 14889 please do not shorten the crossbow season. the WBA argument to do this does not make any sense. number of crossbow hunters after 4 years probably have peaked. the number of bucks shot is about the same as compound bow shooters which is the way it should stay. gun hunter kill numbers are still climbing despite crossbows. most bucks are shot on private land. if landowner cannot use a crossbow he will probable shot that big buck during the gun season. shortening crossbow season will not save many bucks for compound bow shooters like WBA thinks.
- 14890 I believe the deer management areas are way to big. In our areas I see pockets of large numbers and near my property I see very few deer. I know it is almost all private land and hard to control. I know there are big farmers and lease holders that dictate the number of deer being taken. I live in an area where the farmers hate deer and want them completely wiped out. Which seems to me that the management areas are not getting hunted evenly. I also do not know what the answer is. But I do know that the plan you are using is not working.
- 14891 There may be very isolated spots of privately owned large parcel acreage that holds an overpopulation of deer that might need to be addressed, however, I believe this is not the case regarding the county as a whole. The goal overall might be to bring the herd population as a whole down but the only way the really achieve this might be to apply 3 does to be shot to earn a buck in certain areas within the county, such as the waumandee valley. Also the holiday hunt might be ok as long as it did not hinder late season archery buck hunters.
- 14892 The numbers of deer within Buffalo county vary widely as a result of the large number of absentee owners, outfitters, and others severely restricting the harvest of deer on their properties. Therefore it is easy to assume all areas of the county have an over-population situation. This is simply not true. We are managing our property appropriately but we are penalized by the mismanagement of the folks listed above. We have a significant issue with outfitters violating foodplot rules, not registering as outfitters, etc.
- 14893 I know decisions about herd size are always touchy, but it seems to me people have talked so much about how many deer there are in the past, and people still just repeat it and believe it when my experiences and others suggest otherwise. What do we want to be: "I'll believe it when I see it?" or "I'll see it when I believe it." Sadly, I think we have been sitting in the latter for some time. As a result, I cannot support continual reduction in herd size as I wish to "believe it when I see it."



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- 14894 The length of the bow/crossbow season should start 2 to 3 weeks later than it starts now. The total time frame deer seasons now open puts excessive stress on the animals. Coyote numbers have increased to incredulous numbers. Baiting needs to be legalized to help control these over expanding numbers. Several does were noticed without fawns. Increasing the amount of antlerless deer harvested is insane when considering what the coyote predation is doing.
- 14895 Deer distribution across this dmU does vary. As a landowner we have been aggressive with our antlerless harvest quotas using nearly all our allotted tags yet neighbors under harvest so despite intentions reducing deer numbers on the landscape is a challenge. Data indicate crossbow buck harvest will likely exceed vertical bow harvest in the near future. I am in favor of limiting able bodied hunters under age 60 or 65 with a shorter crossbow season
- 14896 I gave up on gun hunting as there literally are NO deer on my property. Something needs to be done to restrict crossbows. They essentially are turning a crossbow into capable rifle and taking out way too many animals from sept-jan. The herd size in this unit is 100% over-estimated. I have yet to see all of these deer decision-makers "believe" are in our area. I want to see hard evidence of this to rationalize herd reduction.
- 14897 I know deer are not distributed evenly but our area the past 2 years is getting just awful as far as seeing deer or harvesting any. Considering giving up gun season since we do not see much deer anymore and it sucks sitting all day and seeing 1 or 2 deer max. Very concerned about them implementing split archery/crossbow seasons also as you will lose more hunters meaning more deer in some areas.
- 14898 Please get rid of Holiday Hunt. The population does not warrant giving out 3 antlerless tags per license. Never has! Population is and has been under control for a number of years now. Have to go back to early 2000's to when they were "high". Get the Social Carrying Capacity number right and then see the population levels of last 10 years are not above current goals.
- 14900 If the 2018/2019 season needs to be longer, start it earlier instead of making it longer. Bucks are/starting to shedding antlers in January. Yes you should still be able to judge if it's doe or a buck that has shed he's antlers but a lot of people can't! Deer harvest numbers would go up if season started earlier, more people would hunt with having warmer temps.
- 14899 Not sure what data is continuing driving reduction in deer numbers. My observations with cameras, drives, and counts during the season have tapered off on "poor" the past 5-8 years. And yes...I manage for deer, habitat, cover, food, water, shelter. I'm not saying 100 deer in a field is healthy, but people go nuts and brag they see one deer in field. Pretty sad.
- 14901 I WOULD LIKE TO SEE A CROSSBOW ONLY SEASON IMPLEMENTED. MY FATHER WAS HANDICAPPED AND IT WAS AN EDGE FOR HIM NOW IT HAS BECOME ALMOST LIKE ANOTHER GUN SEASON WITH THE CROSSBOWS BEING MANUFACTURED, NOT MUCH SKILL WITH A SCOPE AND A TRIGGER AND THE DISTANCE THEY CAN SHOOT.. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ARCHERY GO BACK TO WHAT IT WAS.
- 14902 If people are to going to harvest antlerless deer to decrease the population (as it desperately needs), an antlerless only season needs to be implemented for one year. Over browsing of forests and crop lands are out of control. Holiday hunt has to stay in play without extending any season further than it already is.
- 14903 Considerations for your team. Please keep the crossbow and vertical bows seasons. This allows the family to hunt together at the same time. Please give consideration to older hunters possibly 75 to 80 years of age by allowing them to hunt during the youth hunt with the same rules as the youth. Thanks
- 14904 I have seen little to none deer in the area since last summer. No sign of deer on our property when otherwise completely full of embedded trails, markings, etc.. DNR in my opinion are giving out far to many tags that are more than likely being abused



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- 14905 I sure don't see the numbers of deer as I used to and probably will abandoned gun hunting as there just aren't the deer around anymore. The grandkids decided to hang it up a few years ago as well as who wants to run around the woods for nothing.
- 14906 I highly support the Holiday Hunt and I hope to see this implemented for 2018. The damage from over-browsing of forests, preventing re-growth of the desired forest tree species, is devastating due to the high deer population in this area.
- 14907 would like to see earn a buck again and the elimination all food plots so deer are more evenly dispersed in county. Food plots only attract deer they do not help winter survival as most people think deer can survive on brouse
- 14908 The CDAC has a tough job with all the private landowners. Many of these owners are not interested in doing what is best for the resources. Too much Big Buck mentality! Bring back EAB, it works!
- 14909 I am in general really happy with our season. The only thing I dont like is the holiday hunt mostly because it affects my chances of harvesting a buck late season with my bow significantly.
- 14910 I would like to see a one buck limit/season, no buck party hunting, less crossbow/archery pressure, no rifles during the 9 day gun season and an increase in nonresident license price.
- 14911 I think if we are going to continue with the holiday hunt, bowhunters should be allowed to take a buck during the holiday hunt or 9 days should be added to the end of the bow season.
- 14912 There is plenty of food to care the herd on private property. We need to open albino deer up to hunt. It is not okto let the albino population continue to grow with out harvest.
- 14913 Buffalo county has a lot of private land with private land owners. Give them the tags and let them decide how many deer need to be harvested on their property.
- 14915 I own a little over 40ac and found 5 dead fawns this winter while walking property. All looked to be coyote kills. Coyotes were on cameras all winter.
- 14914 Antlerless only season may be the the only way to decrease the population and get the 'bar stool fools' to take some does. Holiday hunt needs to stay
- 14916 While the number of deer seem to be really down, I'm curious to know the impact of crossbows on why We're not seeing as many bucks in the gun season.
- 14917 Lots of time in the woods. Not a lot of sign of deer. Cant keep raising quotas when there aren't the number of deer out there.
- 14918 Three antler less tags for bow and gun for a total of six is insane on public land. Please call me and show me the deer.
- 14919 Implement a 'one buck rule.' Maybe then people will focus on antlerless harvest once their 'only' buck tag is filled
- 14920 we need point restriction, we need more bobcat tags, i have one picture with 5 yes 5 bobcats onit.
- 14921 Reduce the crossbow season and/or start enforcing minimum buck sizes and less antlerless tags!
- 14922 Go antlerless only for a year to get the population where you need it.
- 14923 I am opposed to buying separate public & private land permits.
- 14924 Predator management needed. Bobcats are out of control
- 14925 Please do not implement Earn a Buck ever again!
- 14926 Let's bring back the deer, please.
- 18012



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Burnett, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

108 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 41
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 26
I hunt in this unit: 98
General interest in this unit: 22

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 81
Bow: 46
Crossbow: 33
Muzzleloader: 29

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.14
Maximum: 64

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 27
Mostly Private Land: 12
Public and Private Land About Equally: 23
Mostly Public Land: 10
Exclusively Public Land: 24
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 14
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 20
Somewhat crowded: 13
Very crowded: 16
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 24
Same: 35
More: 29
Many More: 10
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	6	20	40	32	10	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	10	37	29	25	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	15	34	24	32	0

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...				
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :		Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...				
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:		Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...				
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:		10	90	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		64	31	13

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.00
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.67
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.16
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.56
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.40
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.36
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.03
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.19
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.63
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.06
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.40



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Burnett, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

14927 Respectfully, I believe that the deer baiting has ruined traditional hunting. The low antlerless numbers on the public land supports the belief that those with 5 acres are able to put out sufficient bait to draw in their doe harvest and that is sufficient to fill the freezer. I have hunted west of STH 87 for over 40 years, and the last 5 years have been the lowest numbers of deer observed on the public land areas. Predators are observed, and that has lead to the deer naturally moving away from the area we have hunted for so many years. We can accept that, but the impact of both predators and the excessive use of baiting has all but eliminated hunting success on the public lands in the area. I suggest that baiting be eliminates statewide for 5 years. Then over that period, put out strong enforcement and fines for those caught cheating. The fines will more than cover the hunters that don't buy licenses because of the baiting ban. I suspect your public land numbers will increase significantly, and you will have many more sportsmen and sportswomen actually hunting rather than baiting and harvesting. If that thought is too extreme, then eliminate all feed and baiting from June to January of the following year. That would allow those who recreationally feed to still do so in the winter, but eliminates the feeding during the summer and hunting seasons. Recent baiting bans in Burnett County due to CWD did not work because I still observed many camps with food placed out during the season, and beaten deer trails walking from feed station to feed station.....Bans don't work with out enforcement. I also support the WisDNR and others in the state to restart the Wolf hunting program. I don't want all wolves eliminated, but I do want the Wolf HERD managed. Thank you for your time, and I hope I did not offend those who have resorted to baiting and harvesting, I just like to call it hunting and am fine without harvesting.

14928 I'm disappointed that the designation of "maintain" in our unit really means that more antlerless permits will be issued and more antlerless deer will be killed. Our unit should not be having an increase in antlerless permit availability especially in the public land areas. In fact, the public areas in the western and southwestern areas of Burnett county should still have a "increase" designation, and therefore have fewer antlerless tags available than last year. Perhaps our county should be split into two units to avoid this problem. The deer population on private land and agricultural areas of the county should not be the reason our public lands get pounded with more antlerless tags. There should have been ZERO increases in antlerless tags on our public lands, and fewer tags should have been considered. In addition, the recent information released by the WI DNR that indicates the vastly greater harvest rates by hunters who use a crossbow should be realized by the members of our Burnett County CDAC. The trends in the crossbow harvest indicate a dim future in our woods. Our CDAC should support the proposal of the DNR Board that would reduce the length of the crossbow season structure or reduce who is eligible to use such an effective weapon. (Of course any such reductions need not include aging hunters or physically impaired hunters as previously was the case.)



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14929 I have hunted on my land for many yrs and seen many things in the wild, my neighbor also hunted his property but never shot any doe's. I like QDM for producing nice bucks in the area. In the yrs that he owned his property and i hunted my land and surrounding land with a friend there was always high numbers of deer and good number of trophy bucks. Since he sold his property and new neighbor moved in, he started taking more doe's out and thru those last 12yrs the amount of good bucks and doe's have decreased. So what i believe its not what you see on TV or read in magazines thats true about buck doe ratio. Bottom line is more DOE'S means more BUCKS!!!! Animals are like humans, if you want to meet someone you go where there is more people not less. If there is more doe's around more bucks show up, i have seen it over 20yrs in the woods. My opinion is dont give out so many doe tags, 1 per person at the most, no extra over the counter or bonus. If you apply for one and so many are available first come first serve. there is not as many deer out there as most people think, you see the same deer in your area all the time.

14930 I will say that I have been hunting in these areas for 24 yrs, the past 6-8 yrs I have seen the lowest number of deer ever. I have spent over 20 days per yr scouting different areas within the lands I hunt, both public and private, and have seen a significant drop in deer sign during these last 6-8 seasons. Personally I do not believe the "estimated" numbers which are exactly that, ESTIMATED. Based upon the estimates I have received from people whom deal with a LARGE number of hunters, being business directly related to hunting (sporting goods stores, bait shops, etc), there are a vast number of hunters whom are seeing less deer. I would love a response on how the population is estimated. Currently I believe the methods are not getting a real population study, not just watching fields around densely populated areas (city/towns) and using those numbers to determine the "deer per acre" estimates that have been provided in the past.

14931 I have two large concerns in this unit. One is surrounding CWD and the other is related to predators. CWD - I am particularly concerned about the lack of DNR response and hunter awareness to the prevalence CWD throughout the state. Within this county the awareness and concern for CWD and testing is minimal (129 in '17). In addition, the reintroduction of baiting is of great concern. CWD testing should be mandatory and awareness should be of highest priority for the state. My thoughts are similar for all areas in Wisconsin however there seems to be little to no response from Wisconsin (DNR, lawmakers, and other). PREDATORS - In this unit there seem to be a growing population of wolf and bear. The bear population has risen in the last 5 years. The number of fawns seen in the last 2 years has diminished substantially and we see tend to see more mature deer without offspring and fewer 1-2 year old deer.

14932 I feel that the deer population is not equally spread out across this zone or any other zone. There are definitely pockets of over population of deer and other areas that are almost void. How does one manage to disperse the deer evenly is always going to be the main question. I know that just a couple miles south of where we hunt, there is a large tract of private land that is posted with a large population of deer. If we are to take all of the brood stock out of the equation, how could we maintain the few deer that are in the area where we hunt? There seems to be a mentality in this area that if its brown, its down. In nine days of hunting during the gun season for the last couple of years, with an average of spending 7 to 10 hours a day in my stand, I maybe tally up 10 deer for the season. To me, that's not a lot of deer.

14933 Question: Within in the metrics for our area are the Native American harvest numbers included? In discussing hunter success, hunter satisfaction and the tourism aspect of the Wisconsin hunt I believe long term there would be huge benefits to minimum antler count for the the shooting of bucks. Complimenting that would be if the Native American hunt would also buy into this. Forgot to say that I hunt very near Native American land/hunting area. The WI hunt is after the rut and by nature I think not as good as the MN hunt. (lifelong MN hunter as used to live there and 20 plus year WI hunter). As a FYI my MN brother-in-law who hunted here for more than a decade will not do the WI hunt anymore to lack of not only seeing deer but quality deer. Could not attend March meetings. Gary Boylan 715 349 5153



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 14934 Discussions by the committee often have a heavy emphasis on hunter satisfaction, however, hunter satisfaction is not mentioned in the CDAC charter. I'm not sure who established the charter but I couldn't agree more with the direction it provides to the committees and what is most important to consider when setting population goals. With that being said, hunters are the ones attaining the goals on behalf of the committees and their opinions matter too, however, one must carefully weigh these opinions against the science and data provided by the DNR.
- 14935 The issue is the idea that Burnett County is an homogenous unit and therefore harvest quotes are set for the entire County is ludicrous. The vast majority south of Hwy 70 is crop land the vast majority north of 70 is forest. The number of deer left in the forest areas are minimal -- as I travel thru the county it is obvious that the number of deer in the farmland areas are high but where we hunt in the forest you are lucky to see a deer. This da system needs to be changed to allow the county to differentiate between north and south of hwy 70
- 14936 The total deer population is certainly taking a hit in this area. Between hunting, vehicles, and predators, the population is losing ground it had been making up over the last several years. Clearly, the State cant do anything about some of the large predators that are federally protected, so we shouldn't be allowing hunters to take more deer and put even more pressure on the herd. This past winter hasn't been very forgiving either in regards to snowfall and preliminary walks, have shown several predation/winter kills in the area I hunt.
- 14937 Southern Burnett still has a ways to go to get the population back. Maybe I smell wrong or just not in the right area/spots, but I saw 2 deer during my early November week in the woods logging 35 hours in a stand. 4 deer sightings on the opener of the gun season. Another year of saying it sounded like the last Sunday of the season for the amount of shooting heard on opening day. Numerous hunters commenting on bear sightings and tracks. Hard to re-build the population when bears and other predators are taking fawns in the Spring.
- 14938 The deer population in Burnett Co. has drastically increased over the last 3 years. I had daily opportunities during the gun deer season of 2017 to harvest adult antlerless deer(though obviously not the tags to do so.) I'd like to see the public land antlerless tag quota heightened to reflect this. Wolves that once seemed to outnumber deer in the areas I hunt, (4-5 years ago) seem to have moved on allowing the deer population to bounce back from an all time low since I've been hunting and keeping tabs on this area.
- 14939 I live and hunt in the trade river area. Deer numbers have been constantly declining over the years mainly because of hunters from out of the area taking does and fawns. These hunters feel that this is the time of year to fill the freezer. We need to go back to the party tag system or better yet, two tags per person per calendar year. Shoot one buck, one doe per year. Choose your weapon. And have one deer hunt season . 9 day traditional Thanksgiving season using rifle, bow, muzzleloader or crossbow. Your choice.
- 14940 I know Burnett County's deer herd is in maintain status and in my opinion is growing in numbers in some areas. There are other areas of the county where deer are still below projected carrying capacity. I also believe with the new or should I say non tagging requirement that it makes it difficult to say just where these deer are actually being shot. I know it is harder to manage a larger unit and for the most part things seem to be looking up I'd just like to see the antlerless quota not quite so high.
- 14941 the area i hunt,basically old unit 8, the deer numbers are significantly under the carrying capacity of the land. the is extreme,deer mortality from predation in the area.i think we could go without anterless tags for a number of years before getting the numbers right. i expect there is private land that may be overpopulated,(different situation) but not the public land i hunt!!! i would say i am intamately familiar with about 100 square miles of northern burnett county.



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- 14942 Over the last year, I've seen more deer on posted / private land vs the Burnett County Forest. I would recommend limiting the number of antlerless tags (private and public) for one more year and/or do not allow for any antlerless tags be available for Burnett County for 2018. If we have another mild winter, I would expect the deer population to come back to the way it used to be in the 1970 / 1980's.... Thanks for allowing me to provide feedback. Best of luck.
- 14943 The deer herds I have observed in the area appear to be very healthy and even heavy snow cover did not impinge on the available food sources. However, predator control will be necessary as most kills I observed were coyote or wolf kills. I support the continued antlerless deer harvest so that populations do not reach levels that will contribute to disease spread at a higher level than we are seeing today, and so that herds are not pressed for adequate food sources.
- 14944 I am very worried about these late winter snowstorms Burnett County has been having and the depth of snow that remains in the woods on the fawn crop and deer population we now have. The number of permits on public land is way too high. Is CDAC in this for the betterment of the deer or for sale of licenses and tourism? I wonder how many CDAC members hunt public land or purchase antlerless tags.
- 14945 It is my opinion that the forests could be managed better, i.e. less clear cutting or at least cutting in a fashion that would make hunting public lands more productive for hunters. Solicit hunter input before cutting and don't leave tree limbs strewn throughout the cut area so that humans and wildlife are able to walk through. The Fish Lake area is a good example of poor tree harvest practices.
- 14946 We saw far fewer hunters last year and the number has been declining. The reason we, in camp, believe is that the deer population is not as high as forecasts suggest. We hunt hard and are seeing fewer and fewer deer. Very few bucks if any. We compare results with a couple of other camps in NW Burnett County and they believe the same thing.
- 14947 I believe the # of antlerless tags should be reduced due to the severe/very severe winter. Deer mortality rates will not be known for some time so I would recommend a conservative approach and reduce the # of antlerless tags. Thanks for all your work with the CDAC and accepting feedback from individuals that can not make your meetings.
- 14948 There are way too many private tags available for this unit. You should look at a special application for those that are suffering major crop damage due to deer. (Totally fine if these specific land owners apply and get more tags. But you give out way too many tags to private land owners and make too few tags available to the public.)
- 14949 Last year I and 3 grand kids saw a total of 5 does and no fawns for 6 days of hunting. If you want the kids to be interested in hunting we have got to do better. My grandkids are thinking of staying home next year. One decided to do that last year. Please consider the quality of the hunt instead of just the money thank you
- 14950 I think the Burnett CDAC has done a good job with gradual increase in antlerless tags over the last few years. Based on our personal observations, the deer population on public land in the county is coming back nicely. I'm still concerned that private land tags may be used to harvest deer (illegally) on public land.
- 14951 Please listen to the persons living in the area who have boots on ground and are watching the deer. It doesn't appear to be as rosy a picture as many would have us believe. A buck in our area has a hard time surviving past 2 years old many hunters shoot any buck if it has any antlers just to say they shot a buck.
- 14952 Many people that live in this deer management zone are lower income and depend on venison for food. Most of those people do not have enough land to qualify for the private antlerless tags. Please decrease the number of private tags and increase the amount of public hunting tags for those lower income people!
- 14953 Bowhunted past three seasons with no antlerless tags. I was able to see several does and fawns last fall while hunting. It appears the antlerless deer numbers are increasing. I would like to have the antlerless deer numbers increase, to more than they are presently, so that antlerless tags can again be purchased.



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- 14954 I believe in not only managing doe populations, but buck populations as well... seems to me that there are very few mature buck deer as lots of spike and fork horns get taken. I would really like to see this addressed. I would also like to see archery licenses that include both a buck and antlerless tag.
- 14955 Never saw a doe in the 2017 season, just a spike buck and the fork horn I shot. They say public land is crowded but that is not the case. I never saw another hunter in the county forest that I hunted in after opening day. But I did see plenty of bear and wolf tracks in the sand logging roads.
- 14956 I only hunt public land and don't feel the deer numbers are anywhere near where they should be, so I'd like to see public land permits the same as last year. I think the proposed increase is to high and we could lose the gains over the past few years.
- 14957 The local CDAC has done a good job balancing the harvest of antlerless deer to allow for herd growth. More still needs to be done to control herd growth on private lands but there is little the CDAC can do to control this given current trends.
- 14958 Too many tags for private land, less hunters on public land, no one is moving the deer, resulting in fewer deer seen. Need to drastically reduce private land tags and increase public land tags (50/50 split is much better).
- 14959 It's time to give equal antlerless permits to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of deer for CWD reasons and private landowners using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 14960 We need to do away with the separation of public and private, many people I talk to and myself included believe it is just a money making scheme. I hunt an equal amount of both so I have to acquire tags for both.
- 14961 Four points on one side rule its time...missouri has alot to teach. To many small bucks killed...need meat shoot does. Bucks need a year or two chance....like stocking fry or fingerlings
- 14962 The winter has been long, but I don't think there's been significant winter mortality. The deer population looks to be on the increase to me, so I think our proposed numbers are sound
- 14963 The deer number seem to be growing quite a bit over the past three years where I hunt in the Webster zip code. Thinning out the does would be a good idea by allowing more doe tags.
- 14964 We need a STATEWIDE BAN ON BAITING. A separate crossbow season that is in conjunction with gun and muzzleloader seasons. And no farms with captive deer or elk.
- 14965 I think everything is done well currently. I would rather do things this way than have wide open antlerless seasons and then buck only seasons that follow.
- 14966 Hunting in Randall or the Barron's, the deer population is way down and has been down for quite a few years. A lot of wolf tracks near our property.
- 14967 We are excited that Wisconsin uses both private and public land quotas in determining population goals. Keep up the good work people.
- 14968 I indicated that I do not live in the zone which is true but I have lived in the zone and currently own land in the zone.
- 14969 I am wondering about habitat rehab in the Governor Knowles State forest areas affected by the 2011 blow down.
- 14970 Just not seeing the deer like our camp used too . Seeing more wolf kills every year . Very sad
- 14971 I believe the Burnett County CDAC 2018 permits are correct to maintain the deer population.
- 14972 I think bonus tags should be given to residents only
- 14973 I think the quota numbers are about right.
- 14974 way to many antlerless tags
- 18013



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Calumet, Central Farmland

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39 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 24
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
I hunt in this unit: 35
General interest in this unit: 7

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 34
Bow: 20
Crossbow: 11
Muzzleloader: 17

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 18.74
Maximum: 45

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 17
Mostly Private Land: 10
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 5
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 10
Fewer: 14
Same: 10
More: 3
Many More: 1
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	0	2	17	13	7	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	4	17	11	7	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	6	17	7	8	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	3	29	6	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	10	27	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	20	16	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	0	36	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.36
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.92
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.38
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.67
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.38
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.23
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.44
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.08
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.15
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.56
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	1.97



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Calumet, Central Farmland

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- 14975 Why do we have to choose between private or public for antlerless deer permit? This is ridiculous when all you have to do is, when they call in to register the deer ask the question did you shoot it on private or public land. Many hunters are quitting hunting in Wisc. because you have to many ridiculous rules. We pay taxes for public and private and people should not have to choose what kind of land they shoot their deer on. I wonder if a citizen could sue the DNR on that principle, if we pay taxes for the DNR to have public land, both federal and state and if you get any federal grant money seems to me you do not have that authority, umm maybe worth checking out? Its bad enough when you have to select the county, really people. Seems to me someone is getting paid off by the quality deer management people which is ridiculous in its self. Monster bucks are supposed to be a once in a lifetime experience.
- 14976 I am concerned about the deer hunting and all hunting in the killsnake wildlife area. Every year the marsh grass gets cut and this is destroying habitat for all kinds of animals. Turkeys lose areas to lay there eggs when the marsh grass is cut, and deer lose their ability to hide and sneak through open areas unnoticed. It is amazing how calm a deer will walk through the open field if it has the cover of the grass. I believe that it should be illegal to cut any marsh grass in the wildlife area. The land was bought for public recreation and enjoyment, not for farmers to cut marsh grass. An alternative to cutting the grass would be prescribed burning of the grass. By burning the grass it would create fertile soil for new plants to grow up and create better habitat. This would create very good habitat for all kinds of wildlife.
- 14977 The main problem we observe in this county seems to be an over abundance of deer on private property and a very small portion of deer (especially older deer) on public land. When people say there are too many deer in the county, that may be true on private property, but it is not at all what we observe on public land while hunting. Anything that can be done to help increase herd size on public land while maintaining/decreasing herd size on private land would be appreciated by many hunters.
- 14978 I oppose any restructuring of the bow/crossbow seasons. By that I mean separating the two and having different time frames for each. I've heard rumors of this issue possibly coming up and I feel there's a lot of personal agendas involved. By hearing General discussions in the public it seems some people think they have more of a right to the woods at that time than others.
- 14979 Moving into the calumet area between Hilbert and Chilton I noticed how there were hardly any deer at all. I grew up over in the Tomah,WI area where deer are abundant. I do understand that farmland has a huge impact on the wildlife with not having a lot of woods but I just thought that in all my exploring the area that it would have been a higher population of deer.
- 14980 Would like to see reduced Crossbow season that appropriately reflects the increasingly higher kill % of bucks compared to compound bow and gun hunters. The numbers will only continue to increase as higher number of people buy crossbows due to their effectiveness, longer range shooting capacity and ease of shooting with limited practice.
- 14981 PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE Do away with the requirement to designate whether you want your antlerless tag for public or private lands. You are ruining the chances for many of us who have the opportunity to hunt both. This is the opinion of not only me but my entire family and anyone I've talked to on this subject.
- 14982 I have been seeing less deer every year in this area. When I first started hunting I would see 30 to 40 deer just in the mornings. Now I am lucky to see a deer each day. Some days it's several before even seeing a deer. Hard to get the youth interested if they sit and don't see any deer.



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- 14983 I have concerns about baiting, I believe the baiting practice will encourage dependence and not allow for young deer to naturally forage their own food. It also may cause disease and invite other unwanted animals onto your property
- 14984 I am tired of the crop damage to my farm crops. The deer came right up to my house and ate my trees off. I see dozens of deer in my fields daily at certain times of the years. Sometimes they count in the hundreds.
- 14985 Hunted south central calumet 32 hours during gun season saw two deer harvested one. How hunting 121 hours saw 8 deer harvested none. Never had to work for a deer this hard. But love to be in the woods.
- 14986 eliminate having to choose between public and private land as it limits the amount of land i have to hunt. i hunt about 8 private acres and i would like the opportunity to hunt public as well.
- 14987 Please consider bringing back the "back tags" for hunters. I've had hunters trespassing on my land and it would be easier to report if I could see a tag instead of confronting the hunter.
- 14988 Another mild winter in the books. Concerned about deer numbers building within the unit and the unreported kill of deer.
- 14989 I would be supportive of an antler restriction in our unit as well which I do not see asked in the questionnaire.
- 14990 if private land bonus tags are under sold why not increase antlerless tags to two on each license?
- 14991 I would like to add air bows as a hunting weapon to the bow/crossbow season.
- 14992 We would support efforts to increase the mature buck population.
- 18014



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Chippewa, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

75 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 44
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
I hunt in this unit: 63
General interest in this unit: 12

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 55
Bow: 42
Crossbow: 22
Muzzleloader: 29

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 24.19
Maximum: 56

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 31
Mostly Private Land: 19
Public and Private Land About Equally: 10
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 10
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 7
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 6
Fewer: 18
Same: 27
More: 17
Many More: 6
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	9	31	20	9	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	9	23	23	13	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	7	22	16	12	12
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	2	3	26	10	4	28
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	1	4	25	11	4	28

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	30	39	2	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	15	35	0	23

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	12	55	6
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	28	33	11
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	64	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.76
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.15
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.43
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.85
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.07
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.58
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.58
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.24
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.97
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.55



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Chippewa, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

14993 South of Hwy 29 experienced another mild-moderate winter with respect to winter severity; therefore, undoubtedly overwinter mortality was minimal. Antlered harvest has increased each year since the harsh winter of 2013-14. Additionally, DNR post-hunt population estimates have also followed that same trend; although over the last two years especially deer numbers have nearly grown exponentially following the mild winters and reduction in antlerless tags available to hunters as a result of CDAC recommendations. The goal is to maintain the herd, however, I feel hunters in the central farmland zone of Chippewa County should receive 1 free antlerless tag in addition to the recommended number of public and private land bonus tags made by CDAC. In 2016 and 2017 hunters experienced a combined, overall 31% harvest rate with respect to the number of bonus tags issued. Assuming that rate is similar in 2018, estimated antlerless harvest will be around 2,500 and not reach the desired quota of 3,050 antlerless deer harvested. If we continue on the current population trends, we will soon be back to deer abundances/densities seen back in the mid-1990s through mid 2000s which were too high and unsustainable on the landscape. Deer over browsing is affecting our forests, loggers and foresters see it, if you look at oak seedlings/saplings in your areas you will see it. Please consider my comments, as I am a property owner/life-long hunter who is concerned not only about having a quality hunt but also trying to keep deer numbers at levels that are sustainable for the landscape and encourages healthy forests.

14994 I do not support nor understand the logic behind the private/public land antlerless permit allocation. I hunt on private land adjacent to public land. Without antlerless permits available for public land, there are no hunters on the public land. By noon on opening day, most antlerless deer have naturally moved to an area of less pressure. Without hunters on the public land, the antlerless deer have no reason to leave. I always thought the antlerless permit level was dictated by overall deer population withing a given DMU. The idea that antlerless deer live in one area but not an adjacent area is confusing to me. If the habitat is the same on private and public land, more or less an equal number of deer will inhabit both areas. The current system facilitates the belief some landowners hold that they "own" the deer on their property. I fear current allocation system continues, we will be faced with fewer and fewer hunters. Some private land owners think this is a good thing, more deer for themselves but actually, fewer hunters will lead to fewer opportunities. Deer will simply not leave un-pressured areas. We need hunters on public land. The best way to facilitate this is to provide reasonable harvest opportunities on public land.

14995 My biggest gripe is that I would like to see a hunter's choice available since my gun buck tag is virtually worthless in my area. In my area it seems like the number of adult bucks seen throughout the year has been steadily declining in the last 10 years or so. I contribute it to a rise in bow hunting pressure in the area. We'll have 2-3 small 6 pointers in the area before bow season and they either get hit by a car or harvested by a bow hunter and don't make it to deer season. I don't like having to basically play the lottery and hope I can buy a doe tag before they are sold out. 2 years ago I missed getting a doe tag, hunted every day, saw the same 15 does everyday and couldn't legally shoot one. This last year I was able to get a tag and harvested a doe.

14996 I hunt north of Chippewa, just south of Hwy 64. This unit gets lumped into the farmland zone which doesn't represent the area. I have seen fewer deer over the last 5 years and have had wolves consistently in my area for the last 4. The increase in the proposed tags is crazy. Just the increased number alone is greater than the total antlerless deer harvested all of last year. You say maintain but your recommendations will do nothing but reduce the deer herd even further. Until you get a handle on the predators in the area this will continue. There is no need for that many tags to be available!!!! The fact that this is even being proposed makes me loose any faith that we have the right people looking at this and representing our area.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 14997 The deer herd in the western 1/3 of Chippewa County is growing aggressively every year. Not having the opportunity to acquire an antlerless permit due to them being sold out does not give landowners experiencing crop or forest damage the opportunity to control deer numbers. Deer numbers have grown every year in this area so the goal of maintaining the deer herd is not being met. The committee should get rid of the bonus permits and issue one free antlerless tag with each tag purchased. Please consider your deer metrics and compare the difference between the number of free tags that could potentially be issued versus the bonus permits you are looking to issue.
- 14998 It's frustrating to have hunted in Chippewa County for 40+ years to have no access to antlerless deer when you hunt public land but the private lands still have plenty of access. Apparently, they don't like my money. If there is no change I will stop hunting in this county and so will my two sons and four other friends. I don't believe there is any less deer just a selfish local community. Look at the other nearby counties! That's where my money be next year if there is no change.
- 14999 I sat on my land that borders public land and I saw 2 deer all season the first year I hunted here I had 19 different bucks on camera last year I had 3 nothing has changed with land ownership here and a lot of older guys have stopped hunting no logging. The only explanation is doe seasons and doe hunts stop having them we also have an increased coyote population work On expanding the bounty on them so we can keep that in check
- 15000 Please take the issue of poaching seriously. I don't think the DNR is aware of how extensive and wide-spread this problem is (at least in Chippewa County). The loosening of all the tagging and registration procedures has opened the door to poaching. I am convinced that it has had a profound affect on the deer population in the areas near our properties. PLEASE DO SOMETHING! Don't pretend this isn't an issue.
- 15001 The number of bonus tags seems to be high. We saw how many people started buying tags for their 4-year old kids last year. If more kids under 10 get youth tags, this could increase the deer kill in this area. How can you keep a quota when you can't estimate on a larger deer kill from kids? The deer kill could be higher than the quota. This could also mean the state park could get hit hard.
- 15002 Deer numbers vary per square mile. I hunt multiple farms in my area and I see a huge difference of herd size especially after the rut. Oct 1st I had 13 deer on one filed, where's as another property I hunt a mile away had little sign and fewer pictures but after Oct 15 the property's flight flopped. Sane crops we're still standing on both properties.
- 15003 I live in the new metro sub unit created for this upcoming deer season. My observations have shown that there a large number of antlerless deer in this sub unit. I would recommend an increase in antlerless authorizations for the metro sub unit. Also, to create the hunt structure to accomplish the harvest of antlerless deer in the metro sub unit.
- 15004 I've been hunting for 50 years last year i had 7 does on cam by Dec 15 there was one fawn buck and one fawn doe with one 8pt buck at night hunt farmland west of Chippewa falls think private farmland should be split by hwy 53 bear hunted east Chippewa county for bear and saw at least 2x the deer east as there are in west
- 15005 There needs to be free tags. Last year bonus tags sold out, some of us who wanted to shoot a doe but couldn't which is crazy given the number of deer we see. I was on vacation last August when bonus tags went on sale. Being able to get a doe tag in a farmland area should be easy, not hard.
- 15006 Adjoining Landowners in Colburn township are uneducated and ignorant regarding doe harvest and refuse to take antlerless deer. I believe that Wisconsin should go to a Earn a buck system and impose point restrictions and limit firearms to muzzle loader or shotgun with no rifles allowed.
- 15007 I was glad to see our DMU divided into three units for better deer herd management. I think the numbers are "about right" for this first try for these three units. Do we have a predator problem that needs to be monitored or addressed more closely? Thanks for all of your good work!



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 15008 I've gun hunted the north end of the state park the past two seasons and have seen 4 deer total. In my opinion selling that many antlerless tags for sub metro unit is over the top based on what I have seen for deer.
- 15009 CWD is a real concern. Please do not get the Chippewa herd get out of hand, Maintain a healthy level. Positive CWD is only one county away! any breaches in the game farm fence is a death sentence to our wild herd.
- 15010 Having two late season snow falls with record low temperatures has negatively impacted our deer herd. Please reconsider your numbers and lower the antlerless quota as well as the bonus tags for private land.
- 15011 In my opinion the deer population is lower in this dmu. This is my experience from hunting last year. I hunt a lot every weekend plus some week days. I did not see the deer this year as I have in the past.
- 15012 It would be nice to know the number of license holders that request antlerless tags for this unit as compared to antlerless permits for sale
- 15013 Why are there antlerless permits available for purchase but not issued free for landowners with over 40 acres in chippewa county private?
- 15014 Please do not implement new crossbow hunting restrictions, after removing them and encouraging hunters to consider crossbows.
- 15015 Concerning car deer crashes with the large increase in the amount of traffic it is a miracle there is not a lot more
- 15016 Would still like to see all baiting banned before CWD hits county.
- 15017 Keep the quotas the same for next season.
- 18015



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Chippewa, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

30 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 12
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
I hunt in this unit: 27
General interest in this unit: 5

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 27
Bow: 15
Crossbow: 11
Muzzleloader: 10

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 23.22
Maximum: 59

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 2
Mostly Private Land: 8
Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 8
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 9
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 11
Same: 11
More: 5
Many More: 0
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	4	9	10	7	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	0	13	8	8	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	3	6	14	5	0

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...				
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :		Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...				
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:		Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...				
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:		0	29	1
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		11	19	0

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.14
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.68
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.54
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.07
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.93
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.93
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.00
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.25
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.54
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.39



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Chippewa, Northern Forest

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17994 A couple observations from this past year. First the numbers were consistent with what we saw from previous year on a leased property that adjoined the county forest in the southern section.(near Bob Lake) In 2016, with a hunting party of 5 on 80 acres in good habitat we saw a total of 5 deer for the entire week of gun season on this property. Two pairs of mom's with their fauns. This past year, we decided not to lease this property again because of how bad the deer numbers were. But since we live close, we decided to bow hunt an area relatively close (Firth Lake). Unfortunately we saw similar numbers. We grew so frustrated with deer numbers that we decided to not hunt this section, even though we had a permanent stands (state forest land, north of 64). Again this section is right next to the Chippewa County Forest and had plenty food sources near bye - both corn fields and soy bean fields. The deer sign just isn't there as well. Frankly, it was not uncommon for us to walk significant distance and never see a deer track. Getting sick of the area, we hunted public land in Dunn County (near Hay Creek Wildlife area). Frankly hunting this area was night and day different. Both my dad and I saw more deer. I passed on few small bucks (basket 8 pointers) and my dad had a big 10 that was just out of range. Point is, comparing Chippewa County to Dunn County is not even close. I guess I am wondering why not make the area that touches the county forest region a different section? Because giving private land owners doe tags, who have property close to the state forest, is not going to help the situation with how low the numbers are. I do wish doe tags were offered for the area around Pine Harbor woods in Chippewa County near Lake Wissota. There is a large population of deer in this area.

17995 I believe the count of mortally wounded deer that are not recovered is grossly underestimated. Kids hunting at too young of an age that cannot shoot well at all, and people hunting with crossbows who think there using a rifle, are just some of my concerns. I am 46 yrs old and have been hunting since I was 12, my generation was taught to hunt and utilize what we killed. The generations below me are being taught that they are entitled. By handing doe tags to all our new hunters and telling them to just go ahead and shoot away. We are giving the next generation of hunters the assumption that there's a deer behind every tree, so no need to worry about making ethical shots, and yes that goes for my generation of hunters too. My basis for these assumptions are the simple fact that I find at least 3 - 4 deer carcasses in the woods every year that have been shot with arrows or bullets and never recovered, as well as all the hunters I talk to that shot deer and couldn't find them. With all being said I don't see near the amount of deer I did 20 yrs ago, but I do find a lot more dead ones in the woods ???? And as far as the road kill counts, there's wayyy more vehicles on the roads today and the deer have wayyy lower odds of making it across one without incident

17996 Our group hunts the Chippewa Cty. forest in the Bradley/Bog lakes area, and we have noticed a marked decline in the total population of deer over the course of the last ten years. Of five hunters in our group, hunting anywhere from 20 to 50 hours per hunter in that area throughout the season, there was one buck harvested, and sightings of only 4 other animals. One fork buck, and the others being antlerless. The area is mostly comprised of mature canopy forest, although some cutting had recently taken place in the northern and eastern sections of the area we hunt. That activity may have contributed to the lower rates of deer contact experienced last season. But a noticeable decline in animal sightings over the last decade leads me to believe that the amount of doe allowed to be removed from that area throughout that time frame is a primary concern. I would like to see zero antlerless tags issued on public land for at least one, if not 2 or 3 more seasons. As the browse matures in the recently cut areas, it should be able to sustain any modest increase in deer population over that time period. Continued harvest of antlered deer in the area should help to offset the sustainability of the increasing herd size over the next 2 -3 year time frame.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17997 I have hunted the public forest lands of Chippewa county for over 40 years, and based at what I have seen the deer population is at an all time low. I think that with the current predator population and the number of antler less tags given out to the first time license holders/youth, that the deer population will remain at an all time low. I think we need to go with no tags for at least one year maybe two to rebuild the herd. Secondly as I type this note it is April 5th we are experiencing a moderate to severe winter, there were very few acorns last fall, and some deer mortality due to starvation will occur. Fawn recruitment this spring will also be affected due to the extended winter.
- 17998 It looks like the youth permit will be valid based on the recommendation, but we don't know if the youth hunt will be bigger this year because there is no longer a minimum hunting age. If more youth hunters take does in the county forest, it could hurt the population. The public bonus tags may not matter if youth hunters are using their tags in the county forest.
- 17999 Hunted 8 days with a group of 12 to 18 hunters and only saw 6 deer in that time. Deer numbers are still very low in the county forest where we hunt. Would like to see no does shot in there for a year or two yet. We did manage to harvest 4 bucks in our group last year. It is disheartening to make several drives a day and move no deer.
- 18000 100 public land tags are a joke for working people if they are sold at 10 o'clock on a week day. Tags for this area should be issued for the whole unit not public or private this unit is to small and many hunters do not respect the boundary s . Many antlerless deer are shot on public land
- 18001 Still need more time for the heard to recover in this area. Little farm land, high predator numbers, fair amount of hunting pressure, and a tougher winter have contributed to the lack of deer number in the county forest. No public land doe tags please!
- 18002 While hunting over hundreds of hours this fall does were far and few between. The only time I had seen a doe was when a buck a was chasing her. Deer numbers are low on public land and need a chance to recover.
- 18003 Maybe i shouldnt be complaining but last few years ive seen 3 bucks to every doe on public. Does are few and far between. I recommend keeping it the same as last couple years and leaving public buck only.
- 18004 Too many doe tags have been given to individuals no one person should have six tags and fill them. Decrease the number of doe tags per person . The population just is not there
- 18086



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Clark, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

41 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 21
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
I hunt in this unit: 37
General interest in this unit: 8

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 34
Bow: 24
Crossbow: 14
Muzzleloader: 14

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.41
Maximum: 59

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 27
Mostly Private Land: 6
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 0
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 5
Same: 9
More: 13
Many More: 6
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	6	11	18	4	2	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	3	16	6	11	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	4	25	4	3	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	7	29	5	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	6	31	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	13	26	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	3	35	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.25
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.68
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.02
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.05
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.48
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.65
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.05
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.60
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.40



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Clark, Central Farmland

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- 15018 After seeing local results of the crossbow hunt (along with advancements in crossbow technology) I feel the season should be shortened significantly or reversed and not allowed for those that do not have a physical need. I also feel the deer herd is out of balance (buck to doe ratio) and you are taking the wrong approach in trying to correct it by harvesting more does. Harvesting more does IS NOT the solution. I believe (at least in the northern 1/2 of Clark county) where I hunt the buck kill needs to be reduced. This can either be done with antler point restrictions or only allowing hunters one buck. I also believe eliminating the hunting age was a big mistake. I am all for getting more youth hunters but I believe is irresposnble to not have an age restriction unless only one gun is allowed between the youth and the mentor taking them.
- 15019 I farm 200 acres in the Clark Central Farmland and 400 acres in Wood and Marathon counties. I have had an increasing amount of deer damage to my crops in resent the years in Clark County, township of Lynn, and Marathon County, Town of Spencer. Particularly following the years of the wolf season that had taken place. It is evident to me that the wolves had been dispersing the herds that were congregating on my crop fields in the past. It doesn't appear that the wolf numbers have returned to pre-hunt levels. Deer numbering over 40 per section(section being 50%wooded, 50% cropland) are becoming common again. These larger deer numbers are found on private lands. More land owner education is most certainly needed to keep and maintain a healthier deer population. I suspect my crop damage losses for 2018 will be in the neighborhood of \$10,000.00.
- 15020 I would support a change to the crossbow season and having the season be much shorter than the vertical bow season. The thought of introducing crossbows to get more people involved in the outdoors and hunting was a good idea, but it backfired. Too many people are taking advantage of it and it's going to be very harmful on deer numbers in the future. I know too many people that have wounded deer with their crossbows by taking nonethical shots and the deer not dying right away and instead dying later from infection (likely) of course this happens with vertical bows and guns as well, but it just seems much more common the past couple of seasons and the biggest reason I believe is the use of crossbows.
- 15021 I understand there will be an advisory question coming up for vote in the Conservation Congress county meetings about possibly changing/shortening the length of the deer crossbow season. I am VERY MUCH against changing the length of the current crossbow season; leave it as is!! Absolutely NO REASON to mess with a good thing. The current crossbow season enables me to enjoy the woods just like archery used to. In this day and age of declining hunter participation, we certainly don't need to limit any hunting season. Leave crossbow season just like archery they should be EXACTLY the same.
- 15022 Pertaining to all counties, not just Clark, I would like to see a restructured and reduced Crossbow season to more appropriately align with buck harvest data from the Crossbow. There is no doubt that the ability to point, aim, and pull a trigger with a greater effective kill range makes the Crossbow a more advanced killing weapon than any Compound Vertical Bow in which you must time a draw cycle, possibly move to sit or stand, aim (after much practice) and shoot in a reduced range.
- 15023 Deer populations in the area that used to be in the forestland zone have become too high. It will be interesting to see how the free antlerless tag with each license impacts that. I think overall it will be more effective at maintaining the population. However there will always be areas of private land where people will not shoot nearly enough does no matter how many tags are made available. The opposite could probably be said for other areas.



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- 15024 IN my opinion the DNR has been a disaster in handling the CWD issue. Little effort has been applied to stop the spread of the disease. I have stopped eating venison because it is unfit for human consumption. If you think the DNR budget is short of funds now wait until the entire herd is infected with the disease and nobody hunts for deer. The DNR is ruining a billion Dollar industry for political purposes. Science does matter.
- 15025 Deer numbers seem to be declining. 3 1/2 year old deer are pretty much non existent. The Wisconsin heritage of hunting is strong. Please don let it fade away by having not enough deer for our hunters to see. The landscape can handle many more deer then we currently have. 15 years ago you were lucky to get a doe tag and we had more deer then we do today. Now everyone gets one and smokes the first fawn that walks by.
- 15026 I believe we need to explore the shorter crossbow season, I believe it's doing a lot of harm to the deer herd in Clark County. I also think we should explore the possibility of adding Antler Restrictions as well, it would be a great opportunity to improve the overall age class and health of the deer in Clark County.
- 15027 not real sure on if this is the right zone but i feel that with the 1 free tags it is necessary to sell tags if you already have one. And i agree with the one free tag the deer population rebounds a lot quicker then many other areas in the state and it is necessary to keep a good buck to doe ratio.
- 15028 I would support issuing two free antlerless tags per license instead of selling \$12.00 bonus tags. If people have the extra tags in hand they are more likely to use them and this unit has not been able to stabilize the herd by selling bonus tags alone the past 3 seasons.
- 15029 I hunt a lot of Clark county forest land and it's seem like there logging off all the oaks deer love acorns as a food source along with other wildlife it shouldn't be about the money they make from the logs
- 15030 I wish they do doe tags like they did back in the 90's send in for it in spring and get license in July. Buck only no extra doe tags
- 15031 Agree with maintaining Deer population. Do not see the need to offer large increase of bonus antlerless tags on private land.
- 15032 There is a healthy deer herd in this Zone, and it must be kept in balance with the habitat and social issues.
- 15033 Very glad from the boundary change. Would like to see 2 tags given for each license in the future however.
- 15034 N/a
- 18016



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Clark, Central Forest

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93 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 16
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 20
I hunt in this unit: 88
General interest in this unit: 10

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 84
Bow: 55
Crossbow: 36
Muzzleloader: 24

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.02
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 34
Mostly Private Land: 12
Public and Private Land About Equally: 13
Mostly Public Land: 12
Exclusively Public Land: 17
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 15
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 13
Somewhat crowded: 10
Very crowded: 15
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 12
Fewer: 32
Same: 21
More: 16
Many More: 7
Unsure: 5

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	8	12	34	17	19	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	7	21	28	16	18	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	8	19	27	28	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	45	40	8

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.79
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.90
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.44
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.33
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.27
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.27
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.12
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.17
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.54
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.17
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.50



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Clark, Central Forest

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15035 In areas with high wolf and bear numbers, the deer herd simply cannot recover. we have had 3 and now 4 easy winters and the deer population still struggles. The hunter is being screwed at the expense of the wolf, bear bobcat and whatever else is out there. No longer can the hunter in the central forest enjoy some venison and help the deer herd at the same time. No, we have to take the back seat to the damn wolves. The public hunting grounds are bare of hunters compared to years back. Hunters will hunt where there are deer. There are so few in the central forests of Clark County that hunters no longer come here. landowners in some areas have to take low offers because there aren't deer on there properties or general area. Easy winters aren't going to solve this problem as the ever growing number of wolves and bear just keep eating the surplus. Hunters are getting the shaft. When the DNR had the chance to make a real dent in the wolf populations they failed miserably. Truth is they don't want the wolf population to be at the minimum of 350. no they want it high so they can make money on an annual wolf hunting season. all at the expense of the beautiful whitetail and the hunters who pursue. wouldn't it be nice cdac members if you could say with enthusiasm that you had to issue a record number of doe tags because the population was exploding? well those days are forever gone. each year you will have to grit your teeth and fight over whether you should increase the public lands tags by 50 or 75 instead of thousands. how pathetic is that.

15036 Don't care about someone's back yard plants if you live in deer country, put up barriers. I have seen 50 plus deer in late 70s over the opening weekend there never was a problem with food/over browsing. Earn a Buck was the most insane decision made in deer management the herd in the public forest died. Dr James Kroll said the same thing. Clark County Forest, Foresters and wildlife biologists have done a great job monitoring their resources just wish the state would do the same and make better decisions on the low deer numbers. I'm originally from Wi but lived in Alaska for 15 years as Law Enforcement. I would come home every two years to visit and hunt and I would say 2002 was the last best year. I know what wolves can do and one weekend I saw two around County I and Abbott Ranch where I hunt I believe they have driven out the deer because not seeing deer is why. Last note of interest is that my family first started hunting deer in that area in 1961. I am the last to hunt along with my Army friend from Pennsylvania. The stories that my father, Grandfather, uncles was so interesting to me that I have a personal draw to those woods that I can walk and hunt right where my Grandfather hunted. Thanks for your time JL Chief of Police

15037 You have to find a way to separate private land from public land. I have 300 plus acres of land in the Central Forest zone and didn't even get a permit for a doe because I wasn't available that day the tags came available. We manage our own herd on our combined 600 acres of land and don't even have a doe tag but I'm sure we have in the neighborhood of 50 - 80 does and fawns on that amount of land and possibly more at different times of the year and we only harvest about 6 - 8 does per year. We need to get these numbers more in control but our neighbor helps with that as he gets AG TAGS. Last year I heard that he was given 25 AG TAGS to give to whom ever he likes to so that the number of deer entering his fields can be eliminated. He raises beef but hates deer. Sad deal. Long story short is that the private land owners manage their herds and the public land slaughters theirs. I know its hard but in this Central Forest area that we are stuck in doesn't have the same problem that you are trying to manage. I agree that the county land has lower deer count but your private land owners are getting too many deer built up in them because of the low number of antlerless harvest tags.



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- 15038 I took this survey just to submit a comment that has nothing to do with quotas but rather with back tags. I am a woman, sole landowner of 104 acres, and have been hunting for 34 years. Once you did away with back tags, I began feeling less safe because I have no way of identifying any possible trespassers. As it stands now, if I see a trespasser I should call the sheriff. If one ever comes out and I'm asked to describe who I saw, I could probably only say they are wearing blaze orange and is carrying a rifle. Period! Because there were back tags at one point, the trespasser that killed the hunting party some years ago was able to be identified because one of the hunters was able to scratch out the tag # in the dirt before he died!!! I'll be very happy to pay more for my license just to have back tags brought back!!!! I want to be able to identify anyone that comes on my land. I want to feel as safe as possible again!!!
- 15039 Gun hunted 2016, days 7 Total. Seen 0 Deer. In 2017, hunted 5 days, seen 0 Deer. Early bow season hunted allot. Seen 5 two of which were bucks. let them go. When the Governor change the hunting age, he actually turned you people into nothing more than a punching bag. When I was a kid it Took 4 hunters to get 1 Doe kill tag. We still seen Deer almost every day in the woods. Now YOU people give free Doe tags away and Promote killing, not hunting. We Hunter's love to hunt because we see animals, isn't about killing it's about hunting. Kid's are given free tags to kill and in there eye's this is what they see. When they enter Adult hood in there minds it'll still about killing. Not hunting. I've scouted and shined Deer in feilds years ago and seen large numbers of deer, not anymore.
- 15040 I believe that the way in which bonus antlerless tags are purchased is unfair. The time and structure of this system seems to advantage those who are allowed access to a computer during standard working hours. I know this because I am one of those who is advantaged due to the position I hold at my job, which allows me to access a computer and get in "virtual line" without fear of disciplinary action from my employer. I believe that the blue collar worker should not be disadvantaged in obtaining a bonus antlerless permit, as they are the backbone of the hunting community. I would recommend a lottery system similar to the turkey application process.
- 15041 I'd encourage the DNR to remember landowners in the Central Forest Land should have a proportionality higher number of opportunities to harvest a deer in their tax based private land than those who recreate on county owned lands. I'm not for reducing opportunities to those who can't afford land, but those who do pay taxes and often have run ins with trespassers ought to be remembered as well. Bottom line, everyone wants more deer numbers and getting back to sensible management will ensure that happens. The next time someone considers T zone seasons and unlimited they ought to be castrated themselves.
- 15042 I have lived on this 80 acres for the past 18 years and have seen a pretty steady deer population. I believe the current herd is pretty well balanced considering the crop damage, car damage and tourism impact that the quotas have. We need to allow the youth to harvest a antlerless animal so they build the interest and enthusiasm to develop the passion for the family traditions of deer hunting We have developed that family traditions on our land with three generations hunting on our 80 acres. Myself (70 yrs) 2 Sons (43,34,) and 3 grandsons (18,13,11) A GREAT FAMILY TRADITION. THANKS I
- 15043 I have hunted in Clark County for 18 years and my family since 1939. My father quit hunting because the number of deer in Clark County has gone down to the point we will be lucky to see one deer during the opening weekend of Gun season. In the past 5 years I have thought about leaving clark county a tradition started 79 years ago. Now I think something needs to be done. Don't you?
- 15044 We need to do something about the wolf population in this area. I know the dnt does not believe the real number that we are seeing out in the field and Forrest, but something needs to be done in order to get deer population up. Maybe implement 1 buck tag either bow or rifle or a 4 point minimum for adults and open to any antlered deer for youth and disabled hunt.



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- 15045 I won't be able to attend the CDAC meeting for the Clark County Central Forest region in Loyal, WI on April 19th. My recommendation would be to keep the crossbow season as it is - the same as the verticle bow season. I hunt with both archery equipment and I am using the crossbow more now due to getting older and it being easier to handle. Thank you.
- 15046 In 51 years of hunting this area I have never seen so few deer or lack of deer sign. I hunt with my family which makes us a group of 18 hunters with the kids. We make several drives in this area and last year seen less than 1 deer per drive on the average and only 2 bucks. I just can't believe what has happened to the deer herd in the county forest!
- 15047 I strongly think that the DNR should go back to registering deer at a station. Chg \$5.00 with 3 going to the check in station and \$2.00 to the dnr. Also the zone should be like they were, smaller areas witch give dnr a better handle on where antlerless deer may be harvested. No licence issued unless person has hunter safety..
- 15048 I you saw i have hunted this area for about 45 years now--I have never sen fewer deer in this area ! I have stated my dis satisfaction with this board in the past only to be ignored, I expect the same again this year ! If I did not own hunting land in this unit i would have moved a long time ago
- 15049 The deer management in this unit is great for the population of deer. The most in most concern I saw in the past THREE YEARS are the three been cutting off too much and still continue to cut. Is there anyway they can stop cutting trees so we can have more shelter for deer in public land?
- 15050 I would like to see the boundaries change along Hwy 73. Most of the acreage just west of 73 is farmland. I hunt on 165acres of which 130 acres is crops. I would like to see farmland permits be issued for land that exceed 100 acres of crops regardless if it is forest or farmlang.
- 15051 I think we should go back to the days of a draw type for an antlerless deer. This way the deep population will go up, hunters will be happy which will increase the amount of hunters and revenue for the DNR. I also feel there should be more done to manage the wolf population.
- 15052 We are seeing many deer in the southeast part of the county. We hear very few shots opening day of gun.thebow season was very poor with very deer seen.the rut was terriblewith very few sightings.there was not much deer sign .keep the doe permits down and stop the baiting..
- 15053 I strongly believe there should be some type of antler restrictions statewide. There are still too many immature bucks being harvested. On my property we will see probably 15 or 20 does per buck. Rarely do we see a buck with 8 points or better.
- 15054 STOP GIVING OUT SO MANY DOE TAGS!- its that simple. We see SO few deer in the public forest areas,- and you have set an objective of increasing the herd,- so WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO GIVE OUT DOE TAGS??- in a variety of methods???
- 15055 We live right on the edge of County Forest Land, so our section is Forest Land which we do not think is fair. We do not hunt in the county land and feel that we are being penalized that we can never get bonus tags for our area.
- 15056 The deer population in this unit has rebound very well and continued growth in the herd will start to lead to adverse impacts on other plants and animals unless a more moderate approach to herd growth is considered.
- 15057 Whole family has hunted in Clark county last fifty years. Deer population is so low that in the last four years of hunting there, I have seen three total deer. Doe tags need to decrease a lot more for a few years.
- 15058 get rid of baiting & feeding permanently. It has caused deer to go nocturnal and not move at all during daylight hours. This is one of the main reasons that hardly any deer are seen during daylight hunting hours.
- 15059 Would like to see an increase in bonus antlerless tags in public land. And a hunter can purchase up to two antlerless tags at a time providing if the hunter is hunting during both the archery and gun season.



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- 15060 To many seasons and tags handed out. Now you have the compound now hunters blaming crossbow hunters for the deer decline. I think the DNR dosent do as good as job needed to manage the deer herd.
- 15061 NO MORE PERMITS!!! Any clearer for you???? Let this herd increase we can adjust at a future date we get a bad winter kill and there goes any semblance of regaining the historical deer herd
- 15062 The Amish continue to shoot deer all year long in this unit. Nothing is done about this problem. They take way to many does and fawns out of this unit year after year.
- 15063 I live right on the border of the forest and farmland zone and believe that it should be restructured in the neillsville area.
- 15064 I would like youth to have chance for anterless. The bonus anterless tags no! allow 1 anterless tag per license only.
- 15065 Only one 16 day season, one deer either sex per person to be taken with gun, bow, or cross bow - the hunter's choice.
- 15066 It is very difficult to have an opinion on number of permits until winter survival numbers are published.
- 15068 I think for tags every one should only get one tag and there is no bonus tag or even a early hunt
- 15067 Think about going to an 8 point or larger buck harvest minimum, the hunting would improve greatly
- 15069 we need to get the deer back in this unit just keep it low for two years and they will be there
- 15070 The continued population growth in this unit has been very noticeable.
- 15071 consider that every doe taken is at least 2 less deer next season
- 15072 Not enough deer
- 15073 Amish poaching
- 15074 N/a
- 18017



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Columbia, Southern Farmland

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107 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 59
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 24
I hunt in this unit: 91
General interest in this unit: 24

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 89
Bow: 53
Crossbow: 36
Muzzleloader: 30

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.09
Maximum: 62

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 57
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 8
Exclusively Public Land: 9
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 8
Not too crowded: 4
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
Somewhat crowded: 12
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 18
Fewer: 28
Same: 40
More: 11
Many More: 7
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	10	43	25	25	2



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	4	35	33	28	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	2	45	18	28	10
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	9	55	42	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	48	54	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	49	51	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	10	90	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.08
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.96
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.40
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.68
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.20
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.99
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.25
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.42
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.18
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.42
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.28



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Columbia, Southern Farmland

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- 15075 Shorten the bow season/crossbow Oct 1 through second Sunday in December. Only allow one buck per weapon. Allow any weapon during the rut. I border public land and pick up multiple mortally wounded arrow shot deer every year on my private land. For every bow registered deer counted add one more to the total kill because of wounded deer. Bow hunting needlessly wastes game. I crossbow and bow hunt. Everyone should be allowed to hunt during the rut regardless of weapon. As long as a quota is set on the amount of bucks/ does, it shouldn't make a difference who hunts with what. The current rules are set on greed for antlers. Take away antlers and nobody would give a crap about seasons or weapons. Rules should be based on deer numbers not weapon used. There is inequality in separating weapons. We are hunters as one. Separating groups and giving others different rights causes conflict. Just allow a certain number of deer to be harvested each year. K.I.S.S. Equal rights, guns, bows, crossbows.
- 15076 Recommend listing how many people responded to hunting in Columbia County to get an estimate of how many tags potentially could be used in Columbia County. Recommend sharing the amount of car/deer accidents reported for the last 10+ years to see trends. Do you know what percent of the hunters in Columbia County are successful? I feel 4+ months of deer hunting is plenty and it does not need to extend into the New Year's holiday so I am against a holiday hunt and a hunt through the end of January. At that time of the year, the deer are stressed from the colder weather and lack of food. The doe are also near mid term. I feel selling the extra tags is only a way for the DNR to increase revenue where many people already have 4 tags. We are trying to get more youth interested in hunting but it is difficult when they sit for hours and sometimes days without seeing a deer let alone having a chance to harvest a deer. Decreasing the deer herd will not help this situation.
- 15077 Last year I hunted all 9 days of the gun deer season in Columbia county, all on private land. I saw two deer that jumped out of beds in a marshy area on the last day of the season. My daughter and brother didn't see a single deer the entire season. Deer hunting is very important to my family and is a time for all of us to come together to enjoy the time. It is pretty hard to enjoy it when you are not seeing any deer. At mud lake I heard two shots opening day and use to hear dozens every year up till a few years ago. I hunt 4 different properties and spoke with many outdoors man and women and no one was seeing anything and shots being heard were very scarce. I have taken my grandsons out with me the last two years and they have not seen a deer as of yet. So it is pretty hard to get the younger generation involved with hunting and outdoors when no one is seeing any game.
- 15078 Deer population in different habitats in Columbia County vary. Some areas are way over population goals, other areas (southern parts of the county) have much fewer deer. Thus having many antlerless tags available county wide impacts the population in the area with few deer as well as areas that are over population goals. We need to thin the herd in some areas and not harvest too many in the thinly populated areas. This needs to change. Columbia County needs to be divided in to at least 2 management areas with separate quotas. We can not reduce the growing herd size in the part of the county that is over goal under the current season and DMU structure. Most hunters do not want EAB or antlerless only hunts but, it may be the only way to reduce the herd in the overpopulated areas. Antlerless tags go unused as many hunters only pursue bucks unless forced to Earn A Buck Tag.



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- 15079 I hunt on private land and want to bait in order to see more deer, I hunt generally on weekends and a limited amount of time to hunt. Others who might live in the county or hunt over agr. land or food plots have better luck in seeing deer, which is the objective. Even if I can not shoot at one if I see them my hunt is successful. Hunter are allow to bait all over the US but we have been blocked and it makes me not want to hunt. I would be OK with some limits on baiting a bucket for example but other wise I sit and see nothing and I know How to hunt. If the deer are not in the area I spend most of my weekend staring at the ground. We have lots of coyotes in the area and they drive the balance out of the area. thanks,
- 15080 Firstly, the advisory board for Columbia County are 'meat hunters'. They do not listen to the public and vote on the issues to assure their freezers get full. Secondly.....ag tags....shooting pregnant does in the spring. Animal activists would have field day with this. We all have some animal damage.....but it is only the deer that are to blame. A neighbor who is shooting does, brags about cutting the does open only to witness unborn fawns gasping for their last breathe. This is what the DNR is proposing. How about the turkey hunters in camo, being in the woods when high powered rifles are used filling ag tags. I thought we had educated people in the DNR.
- 15081 I am encouraged by the goal of "decreasing" the deer herd in the unit. However, the proposed policies vary only slightly--or will result in only a marginal increase in the antlerless harvest--meaning a reasonable likelihood that the population will in fact increase rather than decrease, especially given the low--or no--winter mortality. Sooner or later policy-makers will need to institute antlerless-only season format, especially if controlling CWD spread is in fact a priority, in order to effectuate and ACTUAL decrease in the population as opposed to a theoretical one. The disconnect between the goal and the recommended policies is quite apparent.
- 15082 Should give out a bonus buck tag for harvesting a doe, then hunters would have incentive to shoot does. You won't get them to shoot more does without incentive. You will also see a decrease in does harvested if shorten the crossbow season. I'm 50 and have arm problems, but won't likely qualify for disabled. Can't hold Draw due to nerve pain. Also can't practice, that is why I use crossbow. I shoot a doe every year. Sometimes a buck as well. Same as I used to with vertical bow, deer harvest will drop if shorten crossbow season. NRB is biased against crossbows for some reason. The average age of crossbow hunter in Wi is 50 yrs old.
- 15083 Thank you to all that give their time volunteering. I was totally surprised when I saw that we did not have a holiday hunt in Col Co. last year. It would be great if there was an article advertising changes. I was satisfied with status quo. In cases like that, people don't necessarily keep track of cdac. Only the people who want change are contacting and actively campaigning for their agenda. It seems that you see from a very skewed group of interested parties. I only pursued this because we lost the Holiday Hunt last year.
- 15084 I would just like to quickly express my opinion in regards to the heated subject of crossbows. I was a bow hunter many years ago and had to give it up because I have a shoulder that cannot withstand the amount of practice that should be taken to be a responsible hunter. So, when the new laws allowed me to use a crossbow I went and immediately purchased one, so I could once again enjoy the fall hunt. If that law changes again or the season is changed because of the purists' then I will once again stop "bow" hunting.
- 15085 the number of deer i saw this year increased because in the town of Lewiston we got hit VERY hard with EHD in 2016. so i expected to see better levels. The numbers we saw last year, were still lower than what i have seen over the 8 years i have owned property here. i understand you cannot get an accurate number, but the mortality factor was not accounted for in any of the numbers so i think this has to be in the back of everyone's mind when considering how many deer died(due to hunter mortality and/or EHD).
- 15086 No Holiday hunt - end it - NOW. Why is the Dnr running the meeting and that young Dnr guy was not the best but ok. Why was young Bill sitting by us ? Only two of the members seem to have a clue that others exist out there than themselves. No one listens to us so why do we want to come ? Young Bill said Monday night after meeting at HS that you fired him. Why ? He the one person who tried to get others to here us. Dnr and members do not listen to anyone but themselves now. Very sad times.



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- 15087 I support the continued use of SCIENCE in driving these decisions. Yes, seeing deer is great, but I also understand the importance of a healthy herd and the ecology that supports both deer and other wildlife as well as the economy. It is a balance with solutions that not everyone will support, but it should be done with health of the wildlife and environment in the forefront, not how many deer hunters report around the bar (I do the same, but anecdotal evidence isn't science driven).
- 15088 If you want to reduce the deer herd charging for extra antlers permits will not help. Maybe pulling together land owners in areas that are over populated with deer and discuss with them why you feel the herd is to large and ask them for advice as to how to lower the population. I farmers are not willing to help reduce the herd than they should not get federal/state funding for crop damage. I know there are crop damage tags but I think that program gets taken advantage of.
- 15089 Continue to allow crossbow use during the archery season. My father & I share a crossbow. If that option goes away we will not buy archery licences. Also the Holiday Hunt affects how soon snowmobile trails can open. That sport has suffered enough. If we have snow in December the snowmobile trails need to open. Nobody hunts the Holiday Hunt anyway. It also puts a damper on late season bow hunting. Thank you!
- 15090 There are too many deer causing too much damage. Since I live and farm in the area, I must feed and tolerate this overpopulation without any restitution or hope thereof. Majority of so called "sportsmen" will not shoot doe because it is not manly and also they think more doe will increase the population even more in successive years. Self serving and clueless
- 15091 Most CDAC members opinionate based on personal human interest. Most of these individuals are concerned about their own hunting opportunities on private or leased land. They show low regard and distain for any consideration of habitat or ecological balance, and no knowledge of public trust doctrine.
- 15092 It would be helpful if DNR would actually take action against known manipulators of the deer population who have been reported over several years to ensure an equal and fair opportunity to hunt private land adjacent to these known lawbreakers. I follow hunting regulations, so should my neighbors.
- 15093 Is there, or should there be, an incentive for allowing hunters to utilize private property to harvest deer? i.e : Rebate on Patron license holders of private property - Reduction of herd - Potential of recruitment of "new" hunters - Mentoring
- 15094 I wouldn't mind having to pay for antlerless tags. It supports the dnr funding that way. Why give people all those antlerless tags for free? Some folks shoot em just because you gave them free tags. I'd buy them and shoot them because I love eating venison!
- 15095 I believe herd numbers around me have increased within last 3 years. I'm contributing to that as I only take a buck. Really depends on genes of animal. If there is a weaker not as solid buck, I'll harvest from herd. I have seen better animals as of late.
- 15096 I won't be able to make the April meeting..but please don't change or take away the crossbow season it gets more woman and children involved in hunting who otherwise wouldn't be.I don't believe it has any negative effects on the deer population.
- 15097 1..Change crossbow to the way it was. Doctors orders only.. but change the age to 55 an older for using with out doctors order.. 2.. seen less deer this yr. But you want to kill more deer. Hmm. Strange. Public land sucks.
- 15098 You keep giving out all these tags yet the harvest doesn't support it. 300 does on public land yet you want to sell 1000 bonus tags? How is that justified. No one wants all these seasons. Not real hunters anyway.
- 15100 With a 1.5 to 1 harvest ratio between private and public why would you propose a 3 to 1 in favor of private? How about something for hunters that hunt public land being able to leave tree stands up over night?



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- 15099 Columbia county's deer management is a joke. Kill off everything in the hopes of stopping CWD. Most dont see anything now unless on private land and that's even iffy. Leave it alone and regrow the population.
- 15101 Holidays hunt and hunting til end of January is stupid. I can't go snowmobiling when we do have snow. Can't use public too many deer hunters. Too many seasons and no one uses them except the slobs
- 15102 Extend the 9 day hunt in November to a 16 day hunt. This is for those who have full-time jobs and can't get extra days or the week off. For example; I can only hunt two days in those 9 usually.
- 15103 WISCONSIN NEEDS TO INVESTIGATE AND IMPLEMENT A MINIMUM ANTLER SIZE/ DEER AGE FOR BUCK AND DOE HARVEST. IF YOU INSIST ON KILLING ANTLER LESS DEER MAKE SURE THEY ARE NOT FAWNS.
- 15104 Would like to see the cross-bow season adjusted to coincide with other shoulder fired weapons such as the rifle and muzzle loader seasons and removed from the bow season.
- 15105 It might make a difference if I understood how deer are counted. Also when public meetings are held they are usually when I am unable to attend because of work.
- 15106 Overall, I feel that the deer herd structure was good in the past year and that the CDAC's recommendations for 2018 were well thought out and valid.
- 15107 The difficulty is that deer are heterogeneously distributed on the landscape. So high numbers in one location are not necessarily high in another.
- 15108 What about tourism? By extending the season for a few hunters you have the potential to kill tourism with the not being able to snowmobile.
- 15109 Too many coyotes. Wolves encroaching on the area need to be shot. FN useless dogs. DNR/BLM budgets should be cut! AB 411! 4th Amendment!
- 15110 Please offer the holiday hunt again. As a gun hunter, I appreciate the opportunity to hunt more.
- 15111 We don't need a Holiday Hunt. The number of deer has decreased in our hunting area.
- 15112 keep crossbow season as it has been I own my own property and semi retired
- 15113 I think you should bring back the holiday hunt that is buck or doe.
- 15114 Change the Holiday hunt to allow antlered deer harvest.
- 15115 I have seen and heard more wolves in my area than ever.
- 15116 I appreciate the work of the Columbia County CDAC.
- 15117 Raise out of state hunting license.
- 15118 Utilize the Holiday Hunt!
- 18018



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Crawford, Southern Farmland

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67 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 20
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
I hunt in this unit: 61
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 57
Bow: 41
Crossbow: 25
Muzzleloader: 21

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 15.25
Maximum: 56

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 39
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 9
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 13
Fewer: 18
Same: 28
More: 5
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	0	6	28	25	5	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	2	23	28	10	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	15	38	0	0	8
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	2	32	31	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	24	39	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	30	34	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	5	57	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	1.96
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.34
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.07
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.60
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.13
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.25
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.13
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.16
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.13
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.73
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.30



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Crawford, Southern Farmland

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- 15119 I understand that in our unit we would like to maintain The overall health of herd, land etc... we need to reduce the number on the landscape. but i do not feel this will be accomplished by extending the bow hunt further into january. The weather is one key aspect to consider as the weather gets cooler i feel less people will be in the woods to harvest a deer. The deer that will be harvested could be bucks who have shed antlers early. also i have spoken to numerous land owners and they also feel that if the season gets extended they will let the snowmobile clubs know that they will close land until after the purposed deer season. my suggestion would be if the goal is to extend the season why can't we just start the season Sept 1st every year and run it thorough Dec 31? that way we have added to the season but have done it when the weather is much nicer and then you also get more people in the woods as that would include another holiday when people could be off work (Labor day) to enjoy the great outdoors. thank you
- 15120 In my opinion the Holiday Hunt makes no sense at all. Most antlerless deer would get harvested when hunters would have to shoot them. Most of the hunters I spoke to waited until late season to harvest those does. As a avid archery hunter, you are taking away my opportunities to harvest a buck. How many antlerless deer were actually harvested during the Holiday Hunt? Is it really worth making many, many archery folks upset that they can't harvest a buck than to have more antlerless killed? I really think you have this wrong! I would be willing to bet the antlerless harvest would be higher in the regular 9 day season if there was no Holiday Hunt. They will shoot those deer when they have too!
- 15121 I think the non resident tag should be good for only one deer, buck or doe, unless they are a tax paying landowner in WI. Also with no option for buying additional antlerless tags for non residents. Its not an issue where I hunt but for others I know it seems unfair for a resident's neighbor to invite his 10 cousins from out of state and allow them multiple tags. I know land owners don't "own" the deer but as residents we all technically own the state's deer and should limit the impact of out of state hunters on our population. We shouldn't consider the tourism dollars as resident hunters in WI spend PLENTY on their hunting. Thank you
- 15122 There are far too many antlerless permits. Especially when one considers how many people now skip registrations. Kill totals are higher than reported. To think that this is not true would be naive. One person can buy a permit for the young children and toddlers and then legally kill 6, 9, or even 12 deer. Couple that with the fact that it will be nearly impossible for the DNR to ever catch someone who kills and self processes a deer taken on private property, and I think we will see deer numbers decline because far more deer are taken than the DNR can possibly know.
- 15123 We must go back to a registration check station .People are lazy and cheating count is way off .Plus many hunters miss the chance to see and talk about the hunt.This keeps deer as a trophy not just a kill.If its cost raise license we have the lowest non resident license in the country.Please consider a muzzle loader season with an opening day instead of a holiday hunt like DEC 26 thru jan 1.People are hunted out now but if given a break with a new opening day more would hunt and you would get a larger doe harvest.
- 15124 I think crossbows should have the same season as compound bows. I think more people are getting into the woods and trying to hunt due to crossbows. more women and younger kids may have a hard time pulling a bow back. Also they are not that big of an advantage, you still have to be in the right place and get them within 40-50 yards, the same distance most bow hunters will try to make a shot from. I think it's all about people trying to harvest the animal the best way they feel comfortable doing so.



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- 15125 Deer numbers appear to be relatively healthy and the individual deer observed in the county appear healthy. I agree with the recommendation to maintain the number of deer in Crawford county. My answers to these questions are heavily influenced by my opinion that the deer herd should be managed at a level that will sustain the available habitat. The deer management goal in any Deer Management Unit should be based on the carrying capacity of the available habitat.
- 15126 there are too many days set up for fire arms seasons. late season deer are mostly nocturnal ,i believe, because of it. muzzle loaders should be included in the regular firearms season. i don't see enough deer in my area to warrant an extra antlerless season . i rarely here any shooting that week. i think crossbows are too efficient for a long season [except for older/disabled hunters. thank you.
- 15127 I see about as many coyotes in the fall as I do deer! Fawn recruitment is low. In my observation I would say for every 10 does there are 13 fawns. Of those fawns 70percent of them are buck fawns. Doe fawn recruitment in my area is very low. My family owns 200 hundred acres, and we run 5 trail cameras. So I have a very good idea on the deer and coyote numbers for our property.
- 15128 Deer numbers appeared excessively high in late March 2018 in ag production fields. I feel extending antlerless bow/Xbow season until 1/31/2019 will be helpful. I understand the reasons for no antlered deer harvesting during the holiday hunt, but if bow/xbow hunters were allowed to harvest antlered deer in this period we would see an increase in bow hunter participation.
- 15129 Overall, well done. I think Crawford County is well managed overall. Great hunting experience and I'm excited about the upcoming season. I've been hunting over 30 years and it's been the best I've seen since leaving Forest County. Thanks for your fantastic work with the DNR and deer management.
- 15130 I believe giving out two antlerless tags for each license for public land was way too high. Crawford county has very limited public land that receives very high pressure for gun hunting and moderate pressure for bow hunting. Too many does are harvested off of public land compared to private land when looking at how many acres of each are available in the county.
- 15131 As stated earlier, I have been hunting in Crawford Co. for 56+ yrs. I certainly enjoy seeing & hunting more now than years ago. I remember when we would be in the woods for 7-10 days and maybe see a couple of deer. I appreciate all the DNR and other groups have done over the years to provide good wildlife management.
- 15132 Would like your consideration to not implement a separate cross bow season. We could not fill last year's tags for doe harvest. Recommendations are for 2 tags again this fall. Would assume 2 tags for gun as well. Why not have a longer gun season to harvest more deer like your consideration of a longer Holiday hunt.
- 15133 I would support one season of no buck hunting. In 20 years of hunting Crawford County this was the worst season seeing deer. On deer in legal shooting hours in 14 days of firearm hunting. I don't think I should be promised a deer but I should have a least a chance at one, that is all I ask.
- 15134 It's virtually impossible to regenerate oaks with this many deer, plus CWD is now established in the county. Please keep providing maximum opportunity for landowners to achieve harvest levels necessary to work towards habitat restoration and disease management goals. Thank you
- 15135 Just wanted to clarify.... 2800 bonus tags for private land.... and 0 for public hunting? Maybe I read it wrong. Also why not go back to state wide buck/doe tag instead of county specific or even public over private land. If you want to clear up CWD maybe this would help...?
- 15136 Please get rid of the Holiday Hunt and do not extend the archery season until January 31st. Hardly anyone hunts during the Holiday Hunt. The deer have been hunted since the middle of September. They need a break. The archery season should end December 31st like it used to.



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- 15137 Issue 2 tags with each gun and bow can give an individual 4 tags so this may be why very few are willing to buy additional tags. Land owners control how many deer there are in this county more than anything else. There is a real problem with unreported harvests.
- 15138 The 2017 gun deer season was during a weird weather pattern. I think the seasons and tags are working but we have had unlucky weather during gun season the last few years and that is skewing hunters perspective on the number of deer.
- 15139 Please offer some public land bonus antlerless tags. These could be used by hunters like me who buy their primary tags in a different county, but also want to hunt in Crawford County public land.
- 15140 The cross bow season needs to be significantly reduced. They have a tremendous advantage on the ordinary bow hunter and near the effectiveness of a rifle. It is ridiculous
- 15141 I would be in favor of an antlerless only holiday gun hunt with the ability to harvest either sex with a bow/crossbow during that same time frame.
- 15142 Having no minimum hunting age is ridiculous. Dangerous to us all and just an excuse for jerks to game the system.
- 15143 TO THE TROPHY HUNTER must harvest adult doe to preserve the genetic integrity of the herd.
- 15144 Encourage testing for CWD. Please make the process easy and responsive to hunters
- 15145 I very rarely see fawns with mature does! Predators?
- 15146 CWD needs to be managed.
- 15147 No holiday hunt 2018.
- 18019



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Dane, Southern Farmland

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127 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 94
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 28
I hunt in this unit: 83
General interest in this unit: 29

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 74
Bow: 48
Crossbow: 32
Muzzleloader: 30

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.66
Maximum: 53

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 50
Mostly Private Land: 20
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 9
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 9
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 17
Fewer: 26
Same: 50
More: 23
Many More: 7
Unsure: 4

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	6	19	57	23	14	7



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	7	21	53	21	15	9
Bonus Tags - Public land:	9	22	49	19	11	16
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	18	26	51	2	2	27
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	17	27	50	2	2	28

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	41	70	9	6
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	35	61	9	21

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	48	73	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	55	58	9
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	15	103	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.42
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.11
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.66
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.95
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	2.98
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.85
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.70
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.62
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.45
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.33
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.59



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Comments for Dane, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15148 As stated in my response, I am primarily a public land compound bowhunter. I believe that things need to change in regards to the crossbow season, at least on public land. I love strapping on my treestand and all my other gear and having a difficult walk way to the back of public land. However, it disgusts me now that crossbow hunters can simply grab their crossbow and easily walk as far as they want and sit down next to a tree and have a realistic chance of killing a nice deer at 50 yards away. Deer hunter numbers haven't gone up with the addition of crossbow hunting, however buck kills have gone up. I understand that they serve a purpose in CWD areas to lower deer numbers, however I don't believe the public lands are the lands that have the high deer numbers that make the spread more easily, rather its the private lands where people choose to not shoot anything. I am in support of drastically limiting crossbow season to a few week early season hunt (sometime in September or October) and a few week late season hunt (sometime in December or January). It really isn't equal opportunity when someone can sit out in the woods for 4 months with a silent shotgun, and get to hard-to-access public land spots with relatively little effort.

15149 I believe the crossbow season is to long and needs to be shortened due to the large increase in bucks taken via crossbows the past three seasons. The dramatic increase in range on most crossbows has given a huge advantage to hunters during the long season. Crossbow companies are now advertising the crossbow as "YOUR NEXT RIFLE". I believe this is one of the main reason gun hunters are having less success during the gun hunting season. If the crossbow season is not shortened, then I believe the state should allow only one buck tag a season for all types, like in the state of Minnesota. It can be filled for either gun, muzzleloader or bow/crossbow during their respective seasons. We no longer afford to issue two buck tags, one for gun, one for bow/crossbow if the seasons are kept they way they are now.

15150 I live in western Dane county and I feel the deer numbers are right back to pre CWD numbers. Outside of the metro zone I feel there should be "Earn a Buck". Hunters are proving that they are not willing to pay for the bonus tags. 2500 available and only a little over 1000 sold?? I hear may people say they used to donated additional deer, but now they don't because they are not going to pay or go through the hassles. We are coming off of another mild winter. The fawning season will be tremendously high just like 2017. Unless earn a buck comes back of more free tags are allocated the WTD herd in western Dane and Iowa county will continue to explode. Shooting one buck and done for most hunters/land owners wont fix the problem.

15151 There is so much information out there on quality deer management yet we hear nothing from our DNR? Land owners and hunters have been taking management into there own hands and educating hunters and forming cooperatives to improve deer health and age and provide hunting opportunities for larger bucks that don't exist with the "brown and down" attitude that has become a norm in Wisconsin. If it was not for these groups Wisconsin would not be the trophy state that it is and hunting dollars would even be less than they have fallen to since the 9 day gun season was removed. Thank you for this forum and allowing hunters to answer a few question but you need to add a few about what folks thing about QDM.

15152 This survey only address antlerless deer populations and there harvest quota, nothing about buck harvest. Doesn't this committee send any recommendations to the DNR or congress about season structures. We have all these seasons, Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Rifle, Youth. Some things are going to have to change. The rifle hunter is still the largest contributor and gets the shortest season. The Black powder should be part of the rifle season and a Holiday season for bucks only should run thru the new years weekend. A lot of hunters may not have the opportunity to hunt in the 9 day season. The holiday season would have the same structure as the 9 day. The bow hunters have 90 days.



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- 15153 My wife and I own and live on 60 acres in Dane county. We have been involved in the CWD process since it started. We had deer traps on our land. We allowed the UW research group to do testing and monitoring of deer on our land. I also reluctantly mass killed a lot of deer on our property. I trusted and agreed with the DNR attempt to cut down the deer population to slow the spread of CWD. It seems the DNR has given up on this, and that's too bad. I think we should continue winter hunts on all deer to cut back on the population till more information is learned about CWD. We still can't say for sure that it will not affect people. Thank You.
- 15154 I would like you to consider the cross bow laws. I feel unless a doctor issued something, it is only making hunters take longer shots--wounding more animals. Your mortality numbers could be off due to the new way hunters are shooting. Just a thought. I also feel we could have a minimum antler count---No less than 8 points to be harvested instead of Doe only. You would have more hunters take a Doe near the end of the season and still keep hunters happy to have a chance. I know it would kill me to see a monster buck walk past me and we have a doe only hunt for the year. I experienced it many years ago---horrible feeling. Thanks for your time.
- 15155 As a private land owner who plants lots of young trees, the deer numbers are a major problem. I am strongly considering applying for after season deer damage permits should the 2018 deer season not adequately reduce deer numbers. To maintain deer at current numbers will eliminate many native species vital to the long term health of deer. My estimate is that deer numbers are 5-10 times higher than the land can support. Deer on my property are now eating spruce and box elder. I have numerous hunters during all seasons. We reduce the numbers significantly during the season but they seem to rapidly replenish after the season.
- 15156 The deer numbers have slowly increased over the past few years and I intuitively believe that they will approach the numbers we had in the past. Damage to young trees is notable and thus we still have few young oaks and other trees. When I hunted years ago up north getting a deer was exciting because it was relatively rare. Now with deer overpopulation hunting is more like shooting fish in a barrel. It is much less exciting and I seldom feel like I'm really hunting as I did years ago. If I lose interest in eating venison I may eventually stop hunting. In my opinion we need less deer, not more.
- 15157 I oppose the Holiday hunt. I enjoy the snowmobile season and object to closing the trails for snowmobilers if there is a hunt where very few participate. Especially in the Northern parts where trails are open and being maintained. I am trying to continue the gun hunting tradition with other generations but with all the hunts going on the deer know when the seasons are going on and seem to lay low during the day. I sure wish just (1) 10 day gun season would return. You would get many more people out that short time and move the deer for more opportunity for the hunters.
- 15158 In 2018 we had the worst deer hunting season since 1971. I blame the DNR professional gunners in a totally CWD in a totally failed effort to ruining the hunting experience in Vermont Township. 100% of the blame falls on the DNR. The deer are struggling to make a come back in the face of disease. Let the does come back! Allow the holiday hunt for purely recreational purposes. Our group will spend 20 recreational days and shoot 1 doe. The hunters know the dire straits of an infected deer population. Nobody needs the DNR screwing around with things.
- 15159 Just like last year I saw almost no hunters in the woods. You can have all the seasons you want in Dane County but if no one hunts during the nine day season, why would they hunt during the holidays. There are fewer and fewer hunters every year and more anti hunters in the Madison area. You need to increase the doe tags for the few that hunt Dane County. I see more deer killed along the road by cars every year than locals shoot during season. We don't need more seasons we need more tags. Thank you
- 15160 I have significant concerns that the extension of deer hunting season could have a significant negative impact on other winter sports seasons such as snowmobiling and cross country skiing safety of those involved in those sports. The hunters already have enough time to have those hunts and the numbers show the success of that. No further time is needed in my opinion at all for this sport. Please allow the others outdoor sports to safely partake in their activities without safety risk.



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- 15161 I thank the council for their work, and appreciate the opportunity for plenty of doe tags and added hunting opportunity. Please support the Holiday Hunt. We can't disregard our deer herd for the sake of the snowmobilers who MAY get to go out, and even if they do they mostly run at night after hunting hours. The bowhunters shoot extremely few deer, so don't let them railroad you either! Do what is best for the deer herd, and we can afford to shoot a lot of does in Dane County!!!
- 15162 I think the entire state should do 1 year without a antlerless hunt, in the area that I've hunted for over 20 years the population seems substantially lower than when I started hunting. I've also seen many people take advantage in a bad way of bonus tags on public land, shooting deer and cutting out the back straps and leaving the rest because they are too small, and I also don't like the no back tag thing, have had trespassing on private land with no way to identify them.
- 15163 I have talked with many hunters in my area and they have all seen less and less deer every year, 2017 being the worst ever. We have all agreed that after the 9 day gun season and muzzleloader season that it should be bow/crossbow only and buck only. This saves the doe that are potentially carrying offspring and gives them a chance to have a few fawns come spring. Eliminate the extra holiday hunts is the proposal and go buck only after 9 day gun and muzzleloader. Thanks!
- 15164 The people I have talked to seemed to assume that if the holiday hunt passed, that the extended season seemed to be part of the package, though that was not the case. I wish this could have been presented to the public in advance, as a lot of misunderstanding may have resulted in favor of the holiday hunt and the extended season without meaning to. Extending the archery season has a negative impact on the non-hunting publics view of the hunter, which already is skewed.
- 15165 I strongly oppose a holiday hunt and longer crossbow. It's a bad decision in the long run for our deer heard. We continue to push our deer heard and there is a breaking point. We have crossbows that shoot accurately at 60 yds, high powered rifles, muzzleloaders that operate like rifles, and the a season that is nearly a quarter of the year. This adds addiional stress on the heard as proposed would not be a good decision.
- 15166 I am seeing a over abundance of anterless population in my area southeast section of Dane . Winter groups of 190 plus in a 2 square mile. Most hunters in my area are afraid to shoot anterless deer in fear of dwindling the buck population. These hunters are uneducated on what deer management is all about. The does are pushing our bucks out do to food sources and habitat. Please help and do an anterless year only in my area
- 15167 Make it easier for hunters to take more deer during the regular season. If they are not going to hunt the regular seasons, a holiday hunt will not make much difference except detract from other recreational activities that go on during the holiday. Adjust the kill and give the lower number of hunters more tags. There are less people hunting, reward the hunters out there utilizing the game and keeping things in check!
- 15168 As a hunter and landowner I strongly oppose the Holiday hunt and even though I am primarily a vertical bow hunter, I am also opposed to extending the bow season thru January. As a landowner, by the time rifle, muzzle loader and a 4 day antlerless get over I have had it with trespassing and hunters shooting into our property. Where did this January bow hunt come from anyway? Nobody seems to have an answer to that.
- 15169 I believe that the number of deer seen in my are has decreased due to the crossbow hunting. The numbers of hunters in the woods has increased during that period and has changed some patterns from the past. I would like to see the antler less tags be more available for resident tag holders and have out of state license holders be charged for this extra tag or some increase in whole on the license.
- 15170 Having a Muzzleloader hunt start the day after the 9 day gun hunt sucks for muzzle loader hunters. The deer are skittish and go nocturnal for a while. Be nice to do the Muzzle loader hunt around time of Holiday hunt to give deer and people a break. I think you would have more hunters get involved then also. I would even be willing to buy a additional muzzleloader license if it was held then.



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- 15171 I am NOT in favor of a Holiday hunt or Extending the Archery season. Why don't you issue 2 antlerless tags with each license sold. They would have a better chance of getting filled earlier in the season with more favorable weather. I have other interests I'd like to be doing in the woods during that time and I don't need to worry about getting shot by my neighbors!
- 15172 Tired of the public private game! Just go back to two free antlerless tags southern farmland bow or gun. Willing to pay more for licenses if we actually get tags. Still also willing to pay more for bonus tags. It's just plain good tradition family and fun let's try to keep it that way. If we need more state funding we the concerned outdoorsman will answer.
- 15173 With CWD on the rise we need to pay close attention to controlling deer numbers. I see an exploding population from 2018 fawning. My guess is deer populations will double. Controlling CWD is of utmost importance. I know it's highly controversial but we need to outlaw deer baiting statewide and really regulate deer farming.
- 15174 In my opinion we need to focus on the 9-day getting more people out in the woods pushing the deer around giving that opportunity for different deer in different locations in my experience I see plenty of deer during my crop Harvest but then these deer go in locations where they're not pushed
- 15175 I am concerned about the prevalence of cwd in bucks and feel that more young deer and particularly bucks should be harvested. I think the population goal should be for lower numbers and younger deer in the heard. I also think there should be a greater emphasis on testing for cwd.
- 15176 there are not as many deer in the herds as you are predicting. We hunt a lot of property and the numbers for us are way down. We are shooting less deer now than we have in the past 10 years. The areas that need deer herd reduction are no were the deer are getting killed.
- 15177 I hunted private land and saw only 11 deer the whole season, I hunted 7 of 9 days all day, the other 2 only morning and aft. Its the worst I have experienced for seeing deer in all the years I have hunted and never laid eyes on a buck.
- 15178 Very rare to see a deer on public land. Deer herds are small and not frequent on private land since the first year of the CWD harvest, which was sad to see all them deer wasted in dumpsters!
- 15179 Holiday hunt has historically not been a useful tool to manage the population. The majority of deer harvested are in fact fawn bucks, not does. As such, I oppose the holiday hunt.
- 15180 Thank you for the to return to having a Holiday Hunt! We will enjoy additional hunting opportunities with family and friends. It provides a great tool for deer management.
- 15181 If the dnr wants more deer kilsl have the season go 3 weeks instead of just 2 weeks then the hunters and the snowmobilers can enjoy both. LEAVE OUT the holiday hunt.
- 15182 As a member of the snowmobiling community - it would be disastrous for a Holiday hunt to require closing trails during the only rideable stretch in any given season.
- 15183 Bucks can shed their antlers in January my concern is that the buck population will be reduced because some bucks will be mistakenly shot as Doe.
- 15184 I wouldn't like a holiday hunt season that would close the snowmobile trails. It would be unjust to take these animals at this time of year anyway
- 15185 There are way less deer around. I hunt a lot and run lots of cameras and there are times when there are no deer in prime areas for days on end.
- 15186 I oppose a holiday hunt as it will interfere with many winter sports like cross country skiing, snow shoeing, snowmobiling ect



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- 15187 I feel that holiday hunts should be a last resort, and favor bringing back earn a buck before going to a holiday hunt.
- 15188 Please oppose a holiday hunt as this will interfere with snowmobile trails and the snowmobile season if we get snow.
- 15189 Extending the deer season affects snowmobiling season which in the past three years is short enough!
- 15190 Eliminate distinction between public and private. I like to hunt both depending on pressure.
- 15191 Please implement an alterless holiday hunt and extended the archery season until January 31.
- 15192 Very concerned about CWD and being able to hunt deer in the Dane County area in the future.
- 15193 A holiday hunt has the potential to interfere with very short snowmobiling season.
- 15194 I oppose of a holiday hunt that will effect other activities like snowmobiling.
- 15195 Youth hunt is no longer necessary when there is no age limitation for hunting.
- 15196 with too much land not available to hunt this is as good as possible
- 15197 Would like to see an issuing of a 2nd buck tag again for archery
- 15198 Allow snowmobiling during a holiday hunt if they have 1
- 15199 Raise hunting license price for out of state hunters.
- 15200 Please have a holiday hunt. Deer are everywhere!
- 15201 no holiday hunt, please!!
- 15202 Go to a 9 day hunt only
- 15203 ----
- 15204 none
- 18020



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Dodge, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

74 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 48
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
I hunt in this unit: 56
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 51
Bow: 38
Crossbow: 16
Muzzleloader: 20

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 20.65
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 31
Mostly Private Land: 8
Public and Private Land About Equally: 9
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 6
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 8
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 18
Fewer: 18
Same: 26
More: 8
Many More: 3
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	3	7	29	23	9	2



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	7	21	22	16	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	10	23	14	15	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	9	50	14	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :		17	54	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...				
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:		24	44	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase" ...				
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:		Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.52
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.89
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.28
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.38
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.13
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.46
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.35
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.37
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.59
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.38



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Dodge, Southern Farmland

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- 15205 Just overall disappointed in the DNR quota setting ever since the earn a buck debauchery years back. Dodge county, the old 68b zone, has always under achieved with deer especially after earn a buck. We get lumped into the Horicon and Allenton marsh which hold good deer numbers, but since we hunt hundreds of private acres in between, we see less deer each year. We have also come across at least 4-6 dead bucks each gun season with arrow holes in them. What I would like the DNR to consider is an honesty system with bow hunters who repeatedly have bad shots or don't put effort into finding a wounded deer, if you draw blood your tag is considered filled. You shouldn't get to wound deer and just because you don't harvest it, you don't fill it. Just my 2 cents. I know bow hunters who take chances on big bucks that they shouldn't. They may rethink if they know they won't get another chance if they wound it instead.
- 15206 Really my only concern is for this unit and all others is do not adjust the crossbow season. I also hunt near Wisconsin Rapids but I am only filling out one of these, since the answers are the same. In the Wisconsin outdoor news paper we get every two weeks there were facts that guns and compound bows killed more bucks than crossbows. Sure the success rate is up but we are paying for the licenses and we want to have success. Maybe raise the fee of a crossbow license even to the extent of \$20.00 more dollars and I would not complain. Also wouldn't you want them to be successful, I mean why do you want wounded deer. Mike Brust is the head of the Bow hunter's Association if full of bull and it states with facts in that same paper I mentioned above. No one shoots at a deer with a crossbow over 50 yards and those who do are not ethical. Thank you for letting me share my piece.
- 15207 There needs to be a better way of issuing doe tags... I hunt exclusively on public lands that used to draw people from various parts of the entire country... now I have meet mostly ding dongs that have private land to hunt but are coming to the public to "shoot a doe" because they don't want to shoot the 30 they've seen on private... they can buy there tags saying they mostly hunt public and get a doe tag then still buy an extra doe tag for public and never harvest anything off the overpopulated private land... I started hunting in the hay days " mid 90's" hunters choice applications would be beneficial to the herd along with a more regulated crossbow season... crossbows are under regulated and positively exponentially more detrimental to to the deer population than the switch to allow rifles statewide!!! Didn't drop must've missed mentality!
- 15208 I feel the state has grossly mismanaged the CWD outbreak. Thanks to the Wisconsin legislature and WDNR not having the stomach to properly manage the deer population and not banning feeding and baiting of wildlife the state is faced with a spreading disease problem. I feel the state has failed to educate the hunting and non-hunting public as to the importance of population management to avoid disease spread. God forbid we get a bovine tuberculosis outbreak. Our agricultural economy would be extremely hard hit. This gross negligence risks the future of deer hunting in the future in our state. We have trouble retaining hunters now, imagine a decimated deer population, fewer older deer to entice hunters, having effects on hunters' showing up for the hunt and buying licenses which is essential to the budget and management of our resources.
- 15209 I have lived and hunted in this area for all of my life. The numbers of coyotes in our area (northern Dodge County) just keeps increasing. When I am outside in the evening and they start howling I count at least 3 separate packs with multiple animals in each. Last year I shot a nice sized buck on the last day of gun season. It was right before dark and started raining. After looking for 2 hours and not finding the deer we gave up and went back in the morning light with a dog. We found the animal and all that was left was the head and spine. The rest was eaten by coyotes. I have found multiple carcasses that appear to be coyote kills as well.



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- 15210 Still believe we need the moderately to increase the deer numbers as the average hunter wants to see deer while hunting. There has been a gradual decline in hunter numbers in recent years and I personally feel we will continue to lose hunters if they don't see deer or have adequate opportunity to harvest a deer. I feel we also need to keep a watchful eye on the issue of CWD but don't think we need to wipe out all the deer to combat the issue at this time as CWD has been around in our western states for years but as hunters we can do our part in the harvest of deer to try keeping it in check. Only my opinion take for what its worth.
- 15211 The Horicon marsh provides a unique and valuable opportunity for hunting deer. but I feel like the number of deer has gone down in the past few years due to animals moving to private land and lack of cover and food on public land. what little cover there is receives very high pressure or is very in accessible. I feel like the marsh is heavily managed for waterfowl but little attention is giving to whitetail management. I'm not exactly sure what the best thing to do is but I'm sure there is room for improvement.
- 15212 It is important that we not impede the access to deer and hunting opportunities in Wisconsin. It is our last chance to have a real connection to our past and our cultural heritage. It inspires, grows, encourages folks to be better and strive for connections with family and friends. its more then a hobby, more then collecting antlers, its a very means to survival. we should all dedicate ourselves to opening up the outdoors to all who wish to hunt it, experience it first hand.
- 15213 Overall this year between gun bow and muzzleloader seasons along with monitoring trail cams from August through end of December have seen a doe population trending down. Buck sighting outnumbered doe sightings. I hunt private which borders the horicon marsh and also hunt the marsh. The doe population In my area seems to have trended down over the last few years to point where I am passing does that I normally would harvest if doe sightings were more frequent.
- 15214 CWD was found in Dodge County in 2017. We hunt private land that is adjacent to public land. This winter, I have seen 2 or 3 dozen deer at dusk driving the 3 miles from my house to our hunting land. That's too much and I'm worried about the spread of disease. Our family lives primarily on venison meat. This would be a devastating impact to us. We also are concerned about managing the land in the most eco friendly way.
- 15215 Family owns roughly 500 contiguous acres. The deer population is very high. With CWD found in the county, I cannot understand why a goal of Increasing Population would be sensible at all. If anything, more pressure should be put on the antlerless population, with the explicit goal to Decrease Population.
- 15216 Please restructure the archery season to reduce the period of time which a crossbow can be used. Many long time bow hunters including myself are becoming very frustrated with the current structure allowing crossbows the entire archery season.
- 15217 Last year we saw far fewer deer than years before, but there was lots of standing corn so I think that created the fewer sightings more than a lack of deer.
- 15218 Should get rid of the wolves and the coyotes in the area and other predators that are attacking the deer that's the problem in all areas
- 15219 End crossbow hunting!!!! Go back to the way it was, doctors orders only. An lower age to 55 an older for crossbow use without doctors orders.
- 15220 I think the head of the CDAC should quit. He always speaks down to people and he is the smartest person in the room, just ask him.
- 15221 Archery should be extended, crossbow should not. Crossbows have vastly higher success rates and do not need additional time.
- 15222 Deer numbers are very low. This is not a good thing to pass on hunting traditions to our youth
- 15223 The hunters will control the deer population as they have for the past two hundred years.



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15224 crop damage tags should go away. Some deer are just left laying.

15225 Shorten crossbow season. Don't eliminate just shorten.

15226 one buck per season that's all!!!!

18021



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Door, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

151 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 84
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
I hunt in this unit: 126
General interest in this unit: 24

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 120
Bow: 69
Crossbow: 53
Muzzleloader: 56

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 21.72
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 72
Mostly Private Land: 36
Public and Private Land About Equally: 9
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 7
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 20
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 13
Very crowded: 5
Not applicable: 6

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 13
Fewer: 38
Same: 58
More: 20
Many More: 15
Unsure: 7

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	3	8	57	45	34	4



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	7	70	40	15	15
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	10	64	31	20	20
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	6	72	69	4
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	81	62	8
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	103	39	9
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	34	112	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.80
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.23
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.59
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.71
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.14
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.21
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.68
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.82
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.42
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.71
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.63



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Comments for Door, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15227 CDAC needs to remove Washington Island the surrounding Islands from the County Plan. These properties do not exhibit the same characteristics as mainland Door county. CDAC needs to make these a special unit with their own regulations -- or -- remove the Islands to self govern. #1....Deer populations have a major impact on environment. Forest show no signs of regen, fields show major signs of crop damage, and potential for winter is high -- no browse. #2....There is no evidence to demonstrate that the Island and Mainland deer co-mingle. #3....Laws governing the transportation of deer and other CWD carrying ungulates need to be put in place and enforced. This will help stop the spread of CWD to the Island. #4....Environmental impact from deer impacts the entire ecology of the Islands. The effects cascade to other species including migratory birds, predators and herbivores, many of which no longer exist on the Islands b/c the ecosystem is unbalanced. #5....There is a strong predator population in Door county that includes both wolves and coyotes. On the Island, predators are virtually non-existing due to heavy hunting pressure for Coyotes; wolves are non-existent. This alone makes the Islands 100% unique from the Door and requires different management. Proposal to consider is separate management unit where: a) deer are registered locally then submitted to the County / DNR. We have no data to manage the herd(s) when we are managed at a County level. We need local data on the Island herds to manage the Island populations. b) Year #1: sub-County CDAC sets quota based upon historical data, Island volunteer to conduct a pellet and camera surveys for each Island to establish unit objectives and a local quota. c) Year #2: Spring the following year to estimate the rate of fecundity (recruitment of last years fawn), winter kill, estimate deer population, establish unit objectives for the year and a local quota. d) unit specific carcass transportation tag collected by the Washington Island Ferry Line for any animal leaving the Island that is not caped and deboned. All carcass should remain on the Island. e) Pass a law that prevents transportation of animals to the Island -- dead or alive g) Management of the Public land resources based upon quota, # of hunters per day. The Island does not know if the CDAC proposals work for them or don't work for them. We need visibility to make better decisions and provide better input. Until we have a separate registration, we are flying blind. What isn't working is that Northern Door county is struggling to kill animals largely due to a low fecundity rate. The animal population isn't there. If you take one look at the forest, you will see it. They don't have the animals. This is due to heavy Coyote predation of fawns. The Island can control their population of coyotes whereas the County cannot. This is due to landowner cooperation. B/c Northern Door County hunting is suffering, Northern Door County residents will hunt the public land on the Island exploding the # of hunters on what limited resources are available. They shoot the age out of the herd, and kill young bucks which dramatically impact the buck to doe ratio. With fewer bucks to breed, does that are bred will move to the next estrus cycle elongating the rut. A longer rut puts fawns on the ground later in the summer leaving little hope of late born fawns surviving winter and consumption of late summer and fall food stores at a higher rate. The current approach with County managing harvest quotas results in several things: --no management objective, we can't manage what we can't see; and we have no data --risk of boom and bust deer herds, strong recruitment followed by a tough winter can decimate the population in a single season; this is what happens in an imbalanced herd. --increased opportunity for disease, too many animals competing for the same resources creates social stress and a vehicle to transmit disease. --poor hunter experience resulting in a decline in the total # of hunters making it more difficult to achieve the objective. Finally, there is precedence set for management of islands in WI separate of their mainland county. Madeline Island is managed separate of Ashland County. The 4 Island's at the end of Door -- Washington, Plum, Detroit and Rock -- should be managed the same.



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- 15228 I do not agree with the license sale to children without hunter safety as a viable option with keeping safety in mind for them and fellow hunters. I also do not agree with all the different deer seasons bow rifle muzzle loader I do not understand why muzzle loader and rifle need to be separate seasons. Why if I own land in two counties do I have to put one county bow and one rifle for the taking of a doe this is ridiculous in my view. Also when I buy a license I have to clarify Bow or Crossbow, Public or Private land, and county not Unit and now you want me to kill a buck and 5 does when you are limiting me to weapon and where I can harvest an animal even though I pay taxes in both counties that are located in the same unit. If the season needs to be open for the entire month of Jan, so be it but all this time we are keeping them nocturnal. We need to clean up the current structure we now have without all the jumping around we currently have and get out of the county and do units to avoid multiple land owner ship in adjoining counties. Catastrophic deer populations are not a good thing but we need to enhance the deer hunt with incentives to draw hunters to fill tags made available to them by the state of Wisconsin. I do know that with out baiting keeping deer on my property to the end of January will almost impossible but I will work to fill all my tags and do my part to control and enhance wildlife and the habitat we share. Thank you and I hope this will be somewhat helpful.
- 15229 I'm not sure where there seeing all these deer in Door County, I hunt the black ash and can honestly say I don't see an over abundance of deer in this area. I took my dauter for the youth hunt her first time this past year, age 10 and put in 17-18 hrs between the two days and never seen a deer. Took her opening weekend of the gun season, and didn't see a deer until Thanksgiving day when we hunted Kewaunee county. She was getting pritty distraught and wanted to give up, I wasn't gong to push her, and luckily got a doe thanksgiving morning. It's hard to keep there interest if they don't see deer, and I know some times it just bad luck but I know a group of 9 hunters that didn't get any thing in the black ash this year during gun and only one during the archery season. If there is an over abundance is it northern door county north of sturgeon bay??? This county may have to be split. There is a lot of land trust thats not hunttable up there is that a possible issue??? I do know there are pockets of too many deer in areas like Trueway road but no one will let you on and they them selves don't take enough does. Implminting a county wide quota I don't think will solve the issue, micro managing is not easy, but might be what's nessary like the metro hunt in Brown county.
- 15230 Currently there are 12 county CDACs that have split their DMUs because they listened to the sound scientific evidence, eyewitness accounts by hunters, biological/ecological need, and common sense logic to split their DMUs so they could better manage their deer populations. Our Door County CDAC was provided with sound scientific evidence, eyewitness accounts by hunters, biological/ecological need, and common sense logic to split our DMU. Our WCC State Chairman (Larry Bonde) supports the split of our Door County CDAC to address the dramatic differences in habitat, deer densities, hunter densities, and public land availability between Northern Door and Southern Door. However, our CDAC members did not listen to the collective voices of sound logic and good reasoning. As a result, WCC representatives on our CDAC have resigned and refuse to take part in the mismanagement of our deer population. In addition, one WCC delegate was so upset that he resigned completely from the WCC. It is time to split the county to collect harvest data from the north and south separately, so that those numbers can be used to better manage these separate deer populations on separate land masses.



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- 15231 Calling in a harvest is horrible. Was told last year just by several people just to call in my left over antlerless tags just to get the harvest up to avoid the antlerless only hunt. I was fortunate enough in 2017 to harvest the biggest buck of my life and I also took to antlerless deer. This whole calling in your Harvest for deer is going to ruin deer hunting bow or long gun because of the Trophy Hunters that will call in their tags illegally just to improve numbers. And if you think that Door County went up in answer this Harvest your nuts because it was illegally called and tags that raise that number. I realize it's convenience but it is so false. And Dick is a huge hypocrite cuz I was at that meeting in 2017 and he was all for the Angela's only hunt and he only vote if it's a tie and he voted it down and he was a tiebreaker. This is a joke. My family owns a hundred eighty Acres in southern Door County we hunt for meat and we can't even compete and or put a dent in the amount of antlerless deer we Harvest to the population on our property. There was way too many
- 15232 I understand that in our unit we would like to lower the deer population. It is important for The overall health of herd, land etc... we need to reduce the number on the landscape. but i do not feel this will be accomplished by extending the bow hunt further into january. The weather is one key aspect to consider as the weather gets cooler i feel less people will be in the woods to harvest a deer. The deer that will be harvested could be bucks who have shed antlers early. also i have spoken to numerous land owners and they also feel that if the season gets extended they will let the snowmobile clubs know that they will close land until after the purposed deer season. my suggestion would be if the goal is to extend the season why can't we just start the season Sept 1st every year and run it thorough Dec 31? that way we have added to the season but have done it when the weather is much nicer and then you also get more people in the woods as that would include another holiday when people could be off work (Labor day) to enjoy the great outdoors. thank you
- 15233 I understand that in our unit there is an abundance of deer. and i understand that for overall health of herd, land etc... we need to reduce the number on the landscape. but i do not feel this will be accomplished by extending the bow hunt further into january. The weather is one key aspect to consider as the weather gets cooler i feel less people will be in the woods to harvest a deer. also i have spoken to numerous land owners and they also feel that if the season gets extended they will let the snowmobile clubs know that they will close land until after the purposed deer season. my suggestion would be if the goal is to extend the season why cannot we just start the season Sept 1st every year and run it thorough Dec 31? that way we have added to the season but have done it when the weather is much nicer and then you also get more people in the woods as that would include another holiday when people could be off work (Labor day) to enjoy the great outdoors. thank you
- 15234 I hunt late archery every year and enjoy the experience, that being said, in 2017 bucks shed off early by comparrison of previous years. My family are meat hunters first with antlered bucks being a "bonus". We were able to identify the shed off bucks and not harvest them, but I know there were several taken "by accident". I am concerned that extending the archery season would intensify this problem. I live on Washington Island and remember when we were unit 81. I feel that the 3 zone divission (Washington Island, N Door and S Door) makes perfect sense and should be implemented in order to better manage the herd. I would support the Earn A Buck program again but do agree it should be every other year not back to back. I believe the doe only could be effective but am concerned the would be a decrease in hunters (I would be interested to see what some of the smaller bucks would look like after a doe only hunt though!)
- 15235 I took the advise of the CDAC for the 2017 season and harvested 5 deer, more than I ever did in the past, to lower population levels on my private land, as did my neighbors around me. I have not noticed the deer numbers as in the past where I hunt throughout this past winter, nor the deer sign in the woods and less deer trails are observed. I would like to see only 3 antlerless tags available for free, with license purchase in 2018 to reduce the herd. I strongly oppose an all antlerless season any year, if you are trying to lower deer numbers. I know a number of hunters that would not purchase a license for the year with an all antlerless season, so my opinion is it would actually hurt a herd reduction effort that you are intending. Thank you for hearing my input.



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- 15236 I understand the desire to lower the overall deer population in Door Co, however, ON the land that I hunt/own, several coyote hunters have witnessed a pair of wolves not only on my land but on the neighboring properties as well. I'm no expert on the expansion of the wolves territory, but rumors are floating around the residents of our neighborhood that they were purposely released by the DNR. If the DNR chooses to be sneaky and release wolves in Door County, let the public know. My kids walk around our land by themselves and I think it would be an important thing for all of us to know. If it is indeed true, I am thoroughly unimpressed with the attempt to control the population through the introduction of wolves.
- 15237 County wide, I think your numbers are off in terms of over population. I'm out a lot and some days I see a few deer and other days I don't see any- I saw more deer 4-5 years ago I see less on my game camera too- I almost never see deer on public land when I hunt I'm not a trophy hunter, so I'll take antlerless deer- especially with the bow-I hunt 30 days a year. I'd like to take deer every year for the freezer if possible and I like seeing them. I am very against earn a buck- I was in an earn a buck area in the past- it is terrible. If you are a gun only hunter, earn a buck ruins opening day- either you can't shoot the only deer you might see, or else you shoot a doe and spend the day gutting and dragging.
- 15238 It needs to be addressed in accordance to "effectiveness" to reach required numbers and NOT to personal points of interest or wishes. This over population is not only harmful to the crop growers but in keeping our deer healthy. It's years late in dealing with these issues. I've hunted this area for over 50 years and am sad to see the freak, unhealthy, suffering deer that we continue to allow to struggle & grow in the name of herd control. Everyday families are at a growing risk of car-deer accidents each year. The few seen on the roadside only reflect < 40% of the impacts that actually take place each year. "It's time to be more effective and not worry about being more popular"
- 15239 I didn't like the antlerless only holiday hunt because it cut into the time I had to harvest a large buck that I had seen earlier in the season. The weather usually becomes very cold in January and makes it difficult to hunt. I love to hunt with a crossbow so I hope you continue that season the way it is set up now. Over the years I have shot many does and younger antlerless deer, it has just been the last few years that there have been any decent bucks in our area. I don't think anyone should tell me I have to shoot only antler less deer on my own property. Please consider all the landowners and hunters before making your decisions. Thank you for letting me have input.
- 15240 Extending the bow season thru Jan 31st would affect the small game seasons, and would not be effective in reducing deer numbers. It is difficult to get on private land to small game hunt with deer season still open. I enjoy deer hunting with bow, gun and muzzleloader and support reducing deer numbers, but feel the season is too long the way it is. Currently, even though we have permission to hunt private land, as a courtesy to deer hunters, small game hunters withhold on hunting in winter until deer season is done. This would also affect non hunting winter activities such as hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and making firewood.
- 15241 This was the first year I hunted this unit. I only participated in the holiday hunt and it was an excellent experience and opportunity. It was a great time to participate in a hunt with friends and will continue to hunt as long as the opportunity is there. The deer population appeared to be healthy and hope this opportunity will continue in the future. There appears to be a large discrepancy between the number of deer harvested on private vs public land. I think a role of the CDAC moving forward is to pursue more opportunities to open private lands up for public access to hunting. This will help achieve the quota that is set.
- 15242 I do not see how the DNR expects to harvest twice the number of deer in Door county in 2018 vs. 2017. You have roughly the same number of hunters and the same number of tags as last year. Extending the gun season will help (Holiday Hunt) and the bow season through January. Increase the number of hunting days and/or the number of hunters and you will have more deer harvested. I don't know many people who harvest five deer, usually 1 - 3. I live on Washington Island and there are so many deer, it is hard not to get one with a gun. We have a large flower garden and it has been decimated by the deer the past few years. Good luck.



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- 15243 Bring back earn a buck! Its the only way to control the over population of the deer herd. Hunters just don't want to shoot enough does to successfully reduce the herd. If 100 antler less permits were issued to each hunter they still would only shoot one or two. Why can't the earn a buck be re-introduced? All laws can be changed or modified. Herds of 60 to 100 are now being seen in Southern Door County whereas during the earn a buck days these fields would have 10 to 20. There is so much deer pellet accumulation on the ground in some areas that fertilization of plants and trees won't be needed!
- 15244 We saw fewer deer during the 9 day season. I fee that this is due to fewer hunters moving the deer around in our area of Jacksonport Township. I saw 8 other hunters during the 9 days which is way down. Also, based on our game cameras starting about October 1 through January 15, 2018 the deer were exclusively nocturnal. I dont know what the reason for this was or if it was an anomaly as our 40 was planted in oats and harvested in July. I fully support the extended bow/crossbow season, the holiday hunt, and allowing those who use bows/crossbows to harvest antlered deer during the holiday hunt.
- 15245 We used Door County for group hunting. Extending the season to the holiday hunt allows much more time to get groups together to go have fun hunting. We worked hard and moved many deer also seeing good sign of population. I really do hope the extended seasons can stay around, even if the harvest numbers have to be dropped. Although I am not much for hunting past January as we get into a time where offspring are bigger inside the moms. Thanks for the extra opportunities!
- 15246 An antlerless only season would only increase the population of deer. Most hunter will not hunt if they don't have an opportunity to harvest a buck. NO one wants to be out hunting and have to pass a buck of a lifetime because of a stupid law. Door county needs to be split up into 2 to 3 zones. The area south of Sturgeon Bay holds the majority of the deer population while north of the bay and the islands are kept under the same rules for a MUCH smaller deer herd.
- 15247 There are deer out during the day more than ever, and there are herds of deer all over the Southern part of the county just before dusk. With another mild winter almost behind us, there will be a really good fawn production again. It is time to take the steps to get the deer herd back under control. This is why I fully support a doe only season across the board. Also, instead of a Holiday hunt, when the conditions are tough, have a hunt in mid to late October.
- 15248 I really wish there was a possibility of having an Earn A Buck type program. An anterless only season is too extreme. If we could have an Earn A Buck program in Door County I feel it would encourage hunters to shoot a doe in order to harvest a buck. Unfortunately, the new online registration process makes it to easy for hunters to lie about a doe harvest (without shooting a doe) in order to qualify for shooting a buck.
- 15249 With the increase in deer harvest during the archery season could we do away with the gun seasons in Northern Door County. With the number of residential buildings and the huge increase of tourists to northern Door County this would only seem logical. What about a one buck limit regardless of weapon used to make the kill? This would seem logical according to the number of anterless tags you are recommending.
- 15250 I think deer population numbers are a much smaller problem than what everyone is making it out to be. I think population is high in certain areas, and these areas can be as small as 80 acre parcels, not county wide. Parcels need to be managed within 40 ac sections which is impossible to do from rules, and amounts of tags, the people hunting the parcels need to be informed enough to do so themselves.
- 15251 Was talking to some of the deer hunters here on Washington Island and we would like it if we could have or own deer management unit . we don't have any thing to do with the county[lower] at all . also leave the crossbow season alone if they change it there will be a lot of unhappy hunters mainly the youth. also why don't you have your meeting on the island. just to see how many will come to it ?



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- 15252 Door County should be split - like Marinette County - into a southern farmland zone and a northern forest zone. I know the legislature took a buck off the table - but that is the only way to get deer numbers down in this county. Look at the antlerless kill vs buck kill numbers. Hunters just will not take antlerless when given a choice. Therefore - will never get down to goals.
- 15253 The habitat differs greatly as you move south from sturgeon bay and the shipping canal from the deer habitat north of sturgeon bay and the canal. I hunt north of sturgeon bay and I don't see nearly as many deer in the northern part of door county as I do in the southern part of the county. I believe that mainland door county should be managed as 2 separate units instead of one.
- 15254 If you keep giving 5 doe tags you are going to kill off the deer herd. It's time to sober up and split the county into 3 zones again. Make hunting FUN again your killing a tradition
- 15255 Would like to see bucks by permit only for a few years instead of earn a buck kinda like they used to do with the doe permits of the past. Charge an extra \$20.00 for this option. The big buck hunters and buck only hunters are the cause of this issue in this area. Most don't shoot does. Have a doe only hunt in September also.
- 15256 Deer hunting in Wisconsin is a huge economy boost for many areas including door county, land prices have increased greatly in the area and a lot of that has to do with the incredible hunting opportunities Door county offers. I would like to see that continue and not what happened in many other areas of this state.
- 15257 As a hunting community we strive to build better habitat for deer and other wildlife. Deer are indicating that our habitats have improved and continue to be robust in their populations because of it. We've never seen this habitat (timber) structure before in the history of the county or state for that matter.
- 15258 I think that an issue being overlooked in Door County is the huge discrepancy between the lower farmland areas and the upper forest areas. It almost seems to me that the peninsula should be divided into two deer management units. I think there are far fewer deer in the upper area than in the lower portion.
- 15259 Thanks to the Door County CDAC for taking a bold stand on reducing deer numbers! You will probably get negative feedback from this position, but keep in mind that there are a lot of silent stakeholders that appreciate your willingness to volunteer time and effort to make these difficult decisions.
- 15260 I think there should be a discussion about separating the farmland zone(southern door) from the mostly segmented (northern door) areas into two different regulated areas. I hunt strictly public land and haven't seen the amount of deer in the areas I hunt to warrant the amount of tags proposed.
- 15261 I live and hunt on Washington Island the quotas should be looked at and modified for Washington Island and not managed like the rest of door county due to its size and hunting pressure . maybe only 2 antlerless permits . And I was not aware of any CWD testing in door county by the DNR . THANK YOU
- 15262 There are not enough 'mature' bucks in the unit. Too many yearlong bucks get shot, every year. Earn a buck was a great system, but you over used it. An antlerless only gun season, or earn a buck would help protect some of the young bucks, and also help reach your quota of antlerless deer kills.
- 15263 In Door County, we do have too many deer. Challenge is little public land. I attended the spring meeting in 2017 and was disappointed we did not keep a doe only season as proposed. I own a large tract of land in Southern Door County, work in agriculture and am asking for a doe only for 2018.
- 15264 6,500 is an unreasonable goal. A reassessment of the overall population of deer needs to be taken and based off of something better than "deer square mile" deer live in and eat in areas that are not 100% wooded and to judge the population off of a misguided population estimate is foolish.



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- 15265 If someone has a deer problem behind his house does not mean there are too many deer elsewhere. I will not purchase a deer tag or go hunting if the deer board tries to pull the doe only season for gun and bow for the whole 2018.
- 15266 From personal observation the deer herd on Washington Island is degrading habitat and forests. The population is extremely high and reachable browse has been mostly consumed. If we experience a severe winter next year the over-winter mortality will be high.
- 15267 Southern Door has a whitetail overpopulation problem. While I am supportive of an antlerless only hunt (imagine the HUGE bucks the following year) I would be more supportive of incenting the killing of antlerless deer by means of an earn-a-buck season.
- 15268 Why not adopt a longer gun season such as Michigan. Referring to extending bow season until January 31 I would shut down the snowmobile trail thru my property until all bow hunting is over. This would also include all other hunting such as small game.
- 15269 I do not always have the chance to get a buck so i want to keep the chance to get one. I have taken does to help the heard population. Since i shoot does why should i be punished with a antler less season? Do not punish the good because of others.
- 15270 Shortening of the crossbow season is not a good idea, Keep the crossbow season the same as the bow season. These whiners who are complaining about who has a better success rate for bucks is bogus, this data doesn't hold any water period.
- 15271 I would definitely be in favor of a antler less season only I do own around 350 acres of land in southern door county and would support something like this for the season it is a concerning factor that there is so many deer in the area.
- 15272 I oppose extending Bow season because it interferes with the hound hunters. We all need our time. Land owners will not let hound hunters on until deer hunting is done. Hound hunting is important to keep ecosystem in balance.
- 15273 The bow (crossbow) season should end on December 31st regardless of what day of the week it is! If that don't work ban baiting to make it fair for everyone, including the deer who are just trying to make it threw the winter!
- 15274 Doe only hunt for the 2018 Gun season is highly recommend. For example my neighbors will pass on 20 does but will then take a unethical shot at a young 1.5 old buck. I highly oppose extending the hunt until January 31st.
- 15275 It should be required to physically tag a deer and register it in person at authorized check in sites. Hunter back tags should be required. Hunters shoulder at least ten years old and pass the hunters safety classes.
- 15276 If you change the crossbow season to start with the gun season I think it's really going to hurt. But I wouldn't be surprised because the bow hunters seem to get what they want, like being able to hunt during gun season.
- 15277 Make Washington, Rock, Detroit & Plum Islands their own unit (or sub-unit within Door). Crossbow harvest data & success to limited to draw conclusions or change season structure in a reactionary manner. Wait a year.
- 15278 i feel an antlerless only season would help accomplish the goals and also balance the sex ratio a bit. I disagree with a holiday hunt since it is not utilized and it takes away days from the archery and xbow season.
- 15279 I believe northern Door County and southern Door are two totally different environments. The North does not have abundant crops, it is more like far northern Wisconsin. They also have a very large coyote population.
- 15280 There is a skewed perception that public land deer numbers are high. This is NOT the case; issuing a high number of deer tags open to both public & private will mostly impact & diminish public land deer densities.
- 15281 You need to redo most of your rules concerning the age of hunting license purchases....whos bright idea was it to all this? Ridiculous! Considering not buying a license this year!



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- 15282 The Door DMU needs to be split up somehow, that allows a more micro look at the deer populations. The holiday needs to be discontinued for the sheer lack of participation.
- 15283 I disagree with closing the buck archery season during the holiday hunting period. It used to be a time when people were on vacation, and it was a fun time to hunt bucks.
- 15284 There are way too many female deer in northern Door County. This produces an unbalanced ecosystem not only for the deer but other animals as well, including humans.
- 15285 More than enough deer for years in this area. Our camp has been averaging about a dozen deer or more each year with no noticeable dent in the population.
- 15286 I would rather see a addition to gun the week prior to the present rather than another month of bow. What is another month of bow going to do.
- 15287 Please consider reversing recent deregulation measures such as removing minimum age, back tag, in person registration and tagging.
- 15288 There should not be a differentiation between bow and crossbows. They are all archery and should be designated as such.
- 15289 My suggestion is to make the youth hunt antlerless only if you want to increase the number of antlerless deer taken.
- 15290 Hunting Pressure way high now on Public land during the Archery season since allowing anyone to use a crossbow.
- 15291 All I know after living here for 25 years in rural Liberty Grove is that there are way more deer out there.
- 15292 Hunting pressure makes it more difficult to kill more does. Deer not coming out early enough to harvest.
- 15293 We need earn-a-buck or one buck tag per hunter covering all seasons, and no party hunting.
- 15294 We had bad weather on opening weekend of 2016 season, so in 2017 saw more large bucks.
- 15295 Need to make sure the collared wolf in the Gardner swamp area does not reproduce.
- 15296 extend the gun season. not all of us can get off work that week
- 15297 Thanks for taking the input. Door county info looks great.
- 15298 Bring back earn a buck .
- 15299 Bring back earn a buck!
- 15300 Too many coyotes
- 18022



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Douglas, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

164 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 80
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 25
I hunt in this unit: 146
General interest in this unit: 26

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 139
Bow: 85
Crossbow: 58
Muzzleloader: 50

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.92
Maximum: 68

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 27
Mostly Private Land: 23
Public and Private Land About Equally: 31
Mostly Public Land: 30
Exclusively Public Land: 33
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 32
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 30
Somewhat crowded: 25
Very crowded: 22
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 11
Fewer: 22
Same: 52
More: 62
Many More: 16
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	7	26	50	39	41	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	6	19	46	46	41	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	22	41	43	50	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	6	6	72	19	8	53
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	6	3	70	22	10	53

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	18	95	5	46

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...			
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	88	61	15

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.06
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.83
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.27
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.61
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.02
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.25
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.67
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.39
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.41



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Comments for Douglas, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15301 Superior Metro Sub Zone: There appears to be a lot more smaller (1.5 year old) bucks and a lot fewer does and fawns. One factor influencing this observation is the presence of black bears, coyotes, and a few timber wolves that seem to be killing fawns year round. The antlerless deer population seems fewer in number. On our property we have five to seven bears visiting, at least two families of coyotes that have lived here for at least 15 years, and this winter one large timber wolf. A young black wolf stayed here the winter of 16-17 but has died. This morning a lone coyote was mousing through the snow and ice in a field about 60 yards from our back door. We have one flock of 21 (camera verified) of wild turkeys. Landowner antler less tags: I hunt for the enjoyment and the experience of getting outdoors. I do not meat hunt. While I do get several tags each year and some years see over 100 deer during the 9 day season alone(though not lately), years go by without shooting any deer even though the chance of harvest presented itself many times over. It is the experience over a harvest. We usually establish a list of three or four bucks and spend our time looking specifically for them. Having a tag and reserving the option to use that tag is very important. I like the extended seasons and being able to hunt when the weather is nice or the woods are fully colored or the trees are bare or there is snow on the ground as long as it is not 10 or 15 below zero. I like having an antler less tag in case we encounter a deer someone else has wounded and did not find. If we do not take it the coyotes and wolves soon will and we do find several of these carcasses (both antler less and antlered) each year. A wounded deer has little chance of surviving here. I am very pleased with the format of the WI deer hunting seasons in this metro zone although I do not like the "City" deer hunting set up. It amounts to a trophy hunt for a select few. These sightings are varified by several cameras

15302 Overall the CDAC is an important way for a local voice to be considered in the management of deer and I thank them for their time and efforts. However, I believe the public employees that have scientific experience in managing wildlife, land and forestry should be the ones making the final decisions. They are being paid to manage the landscape to keep it healthy and should be making the tough decisions based on science. The structure of the CDAC seems like a lot of effort to hear that hunters like to see more deer and harvest more deer. As far as deer hunting in Douglas County goes, I am overall pleased with the herd and mostly the hunting opportunity that is fostered by the abundant public lands. I am concerned about deer browse and forest health if we continue to increase the deer numbers. I do not support baiting. The deer herd is artificially supported in Douglas County by the bait piles that are present for many months out of the year if not year-round. The CWD scare in Bayfield County should wake us up. There needs to be a few established CWD testing drop off sites in Douglas County. To get a deer tested in Douglas County last year was quite an ordeal. I support the increased number of antlerless tags this year. I think that hunters (including myself) will need to adapt to a more natural deer herd (in both numbers and behavior) if we want a healthy deer herd to make it through CWD. Just because humans can increase the herd doesn't mean we should. This is the northern forest and we should be realistic in our expectation of the number of deer the landscape can support. We manage (and maybe attempt to micromanage) the deer herd, but have no say in how wolves are managed at this time. I don't think you can successfully manage either of them separately. I do support having wolves on the landscape, but there needs to be the same level of management by professionals using science. Hunting and trapping of (some) wolves needs to be an option if we are going to be successful in managing deer.



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15303 Kudos to the CDAC and the difficult task you have been assigned. My opinion is that the deer population in Douglas County has recovered to an adequate and sustainable level and should be maintained at its current level by increasing the antlerless quota on both public and private land. I understand I'm in the minority with this opinion but I feel that if the population is allowed to continue increasing, severe consequences will result in the form of increased vehicle collisions, ag and forest regen damage, and decreased overall ecosystem health. At some point, and maybe this is the beginning of that point, this Committee is going to be faced with making a very difficult decision in regards to supporting the majority hunter opinions out there that we need more deer at the ill fate of ecosystem health and human conflict. Wasn't the 2017 buck kill close to the original target set by this Committee? If it wasn't, it was close. What happens when we pass this target, does the target change? If the target changes, is it even a goal anymore or is it a new minimum? Does the Committee go against the majority hunter opinion out there that we need more deer and recommend either maintaining or decreasing the herd? Will you be able to make this very difficult decision and take the resulting negative public feedback? Or will you just keep increasing the herd and increasing the target population and kill numbers to artificially high levels? I commend the Committee for their hard work, but to this point increasing the herd was the easy recommendation... now that the heard has recovered the hard work is just starting. I am in support of increasing the 2018 antlerless quota substantially on private and moderately on public lands to effectively maintain the herd at or close to its current levels. If we allow it to continue increasing, we will all be at fault for the negative consequences that result. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

15304 The Douglas County deer herd is brewing into a "Perfect Storm" again. Low antlerless harvest over the past three years, three mild winters in a row and an abundance of aggressive logging has created abundant habitat and perfect conditions for a growing deer population. For those that remember the high deer densities of the late 1980's-early 90's and again in the early 2000's, the deer numbers of Douglas County are impacted by the severity of winters more than the number of deer permits. The herd is positioned to spike again so the goal of "increasing deer numbers" is way off base. The numbers need to be reduced. Our WDNR always seems to be a years behind the building trends and the CDAC's goal is more based on public wants than current science and pending trends. Forest regeneration must be top of mine in setting deer goals in Douglas County. You can't have a deer herd that browses maple and aspen shoots down to the size of one's pinky finger. I know this herd was decimated by the winters of 2012-2014 and needed to rebuild. Rebuild it has. Now it needs to be reduced again. If the WDNR and CDAC doesn't want to do it, Mother Nature will as it has demonstrated in the past. Dead deer carcasses in spring are hard to see when some of those deer could have been harvested for consumption the fall before. Be proactive not reactive. A Douglas County perfect deer storm is brewing. Address it! Also, I'm confused with the quota numbers. The 2017 quota was 500 yet 1163 antlerless deer were shot. How can this be? Were Youth Permits abused? Something doesn't pass the smell test. But maybe I missed something in the numbers. You get my point. It is good to see the private land quota has doubled and public land has nearly tripled.



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15305 Though I understand the reason the DNR sells antlerless permits that are designated as Private vs Public land kills (to collect metrics on deer population on each land type), limiting the number of each type is ridiculous and separately designating permits based on land type is also ridiculous - given the rules that a antlerless deer must be tagged with the appropriate land type permit of the location where it died (not where it was standing when initially shot or what type of land the hunter was hunting/standing on when firing the kill shot). Instead, don't sell designated Land type antlerless permits, just limit the total number of antlerless permits available in a DMU/County and simply ask that the hunter indicate the type of land they were hunting on or where the deer died when they call in their registration. This is no different than asking the time of day and date the animal was killed on past tags, your data is still only as good as the hunters recording of the actual event, but hunters would have no reason to lie about the land type - (UNLESS they are only able to buy a single permit of a specific land type that the deer ultimately does NOT die on.) You will still get the data you desire this way and hunters like myself who hunt along private/public land borders do not have to worry about what permit to use or attempt to buy one of each land type just to kill one antlerless deer. Also - the data in this survey seems to indicate that there were more antlerless deer killed/registered on each land type in 2017 than there were actual permits sold of each land type - how can that be?

15306 Last year, for the first time in several years the number of deer gave hunters a reasonable chance. In the early 2000's, when on any dirt road I would see hundreds of deer tracks. Simultaneously, during those years doe tags were given and sold liberally. Being a teacher, I spend my summers up north. It was very obvious each year the number of deer were declining, yet the doe tags were sold liberally until like 2014 there were almost no deer. Right up to this point, you could buy as many doe tags as you wanted until the axe dropped and then no doe tags were issued. The last year where doe tags were issued the state DNR reported that the number of deer shot was down like 70% because of a hard winter. O.K., the hard winter did kill deer, but the major reason was unregulated doe tags. Before the 70% drop, I believe the year before the # of tagged deer in our area was down like 35% and the year before that about the same and the winters had been short and warm, so the 3 year drop was over 90%. It made me wonder if the insurance lobby was running the DNR because it was very obvious that the deer numbers were in a free fall for 10 years and yet you could buy a doe tag or many doe tags at will. Now that the deer are returning I hope the DNR keeps a much closer watch on how many doe tags are issued. During those years as the numbers plummeted doe seasons had been added in Dec. If you want to know about deer numbers all you have to do is look at the dirt roads.

15307 Much thanks to the council for all their careful considerations, and the attendants of the meetings. I believe that there is a HUGE factor that is not getting addressed.. Probably the MOST important!....OVER BUCK HARVESTING Hunter satisfaction, heard health, hunter tourism, keeping people HERE to hunt rather than leaving the county or state could be massively improved upon by MANAGING FOR AN EQUAL RATIO OF BUCKS TO DOE. Our heard is EXTREMELY out of balance. I can't express enough how much good it would do to consider this: 1 either or tag (buck or doe) per hunter (and of course a 2nd if hunting another season-gun, bow etc.), with a limited amount of doe tags available. I'd suggest the same amount as last year with no increase. We would automatically be achieving the same "extra harvesting" of does by having an either or tag. Mean while letting a few of our bucks make it past their 1st 6 months of age, and make many more people want to hunt here because a few of those bucks would live to be a decent trophy. At the same time our deer heard numbers would slowly increase. I believe we would see: MUCH happier hunters, an increase in revenue & tourist hunters, old hunters returning and an increase in youth getting involved, and just an all around better experience sitting in your stand. I believe this is easily achievable, while also keeping a healthy forest crop and keeping the deer/auto collisions at a normal level. Thanks again.



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- 15308 This is proving to be another tough winter for deer. There will be some winter kill, and/or a somewhat larger number of animals in their weakened state will be taken by predators. We're saddled with a County wide deer management unit, which makes it very difficult to manage for the wide discrepancies in deer numbers in different parts of the county. In the southwestern part of the county, where I hunt, deer numbers have not recovered, and the number of does is still way down. In 19 days of hunting from Oct. 30 to Nov. 17 last year, I saw seven does, four adults and three fawns. This was pretty much full day hunting in a dozen or more different locations in a 15-20 square mile area. And I'm not a rookie. I know what I'm doing. I saw a few more bucks, but most of them were spikes and forks. Only two mature bucks. BTW, I also do not bait. That's another practice that should be prohibited state and countywide. Long story short, I believe the County should go back to a bucks only harvest. Some parts of the county can probably stand some doe harvest, but the DNR has no way to determine where doe permits will be used, and many of them will be used where the doe population is already
- 15309 Our CDAC is doing the best they can. The only thing that concerns me is a lot of antlerless tags on public land. Everyone knows the county is split with more deer on the east side of HWY 53. The problem is the Biologist doesn't give enough support (I feel) for most of the county that have very few deer. We are going down the same road we got into when the deer were almost down to nothing. The Wolf, Bear and all the other predators are all still at full strength. Including humans!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I know we can't stock pile deer, we also have no control over predators or mother nature. This winter is far from mild and is hanging on a very long time that will hurt fawn mortality for sure. Please take this into consideration. My property value is down. I would be nuts to try to bring my Grandchildren up to see no deer. I live in Polk county and the amount of deer here now is like it was in 1989 when I purchased land in Douglas cty. Douglas cty. had as many as Polk cty. and were in great shape. Now the amount of feed is unlimited with numbers held way down on the west side of 53. No overbrowsing anywhere. Thank you for all you(CDAC)do. Please take the long winter into consideration.
- 15310 why only one question on predators? other than severe winters predators should be our major concern. I believe and what i have read is the reason for no deer or high number of deer in some areas. wolves for example push deer into pockets between packs. i own 40 acres but hunt mainly public land. Its no secrete that private land owners, that don't farm their land are growing the heard on their property just for hunting and im sure cull a large amount of wolves to help the heard. lets talk about the predators and where the pockets of deer are, i bet they are between the packs or on private land. and no, i am not anti-wolves. They are needed to help keep a healthy heard, but way to many. to many deer in town and not enough in the country. If this help, I have lived in the country for a long time. from Gordon to lake nebagamon. fish the Brule River from the head waters to lake superior. Bird hunt or deer hunt most of douglas county and only see small pockets of deer. Hunted all nine days in two different areas during the 2017 gun season and only seeing a few deer. small bucks and very few does. thanks for your time.
- 15311 I hunt off the Jersett RD, north-east of Solon Springs, and in the Brule River State forest. When wolves moved into this area a number of years ago, they literally obliterated the deer population, and it has not come back since. Previous to that time we had always seen good numbers of deer, and since the influx of wolves, we now basically see none. Last year, our group of 4 hunted all week, and pretty much all day long. We saw a combined total of 2 deer for the week. It also wasn't any better the year before. This is not an issue of winter severity, bears, or any other oddity. Wolves are the problem, and this issue needs to be fixed in this area. I actually feel like my answers to your survey are meaningless, as your questions are based on the assumption of having an existing deer population. I don't know what effect my answers will have on 1 or 2 deer.



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- 15312 We've owned land in this unit for close to 20 years. Hunting was great when we first purchased our property. Many does and some good bucks. Often times you could see 5-10 deer a night. HUNTING WAS FUN BACK THEN. We continually try to make improvements in our habitat (food plots, forest management programs, etc), yet we continue to see a decline in deer numbers every single year. Now, if you happen to see a single deer in an outing now, whether you're on public or private land, it's a good night. Many times you see none. Please, please, please stop giving out doe tags. Please increase the number of bear permits you give out, please ban baiting and please allow for wolf hunts again. I firmly believe these are all contributing factors in the low deer numbers. Thank you for providing the form to the public.
- 15313 The deer numbers have been increasing throughout the county. Although, I worry with stress the late snowfall has been putting on the deer in the bigger woods. I think it would be a mistake to increase the quota to more than 1,000 antlerless for 2018. 2,500 tags will give a lot of hunters an opportunity to kill a doe and save a few yearling bucks for the guys/gals that prefer to manage their area for more mature bucks. We still have a predator issue that has been keeping the heard numbers reduced for several years and the wolf numbers are going to keep increasing until they can be managed. With balancing these factors I think a quota of 1,000 antlerless tags is sufficient to still increase the heard while using the natural resource for its intended purpose.
- 15314 I am a hunter of forty plus years. I fully support the mentored hunting program. What I don't support is last years change that allowed 2 guns in the field, one for the mentor, and one for the mentee. I find it very suspicious that 2 and 3 year olds are carrying a gun and harvesting a deer under their junior antlerless permit. What 10 year old, let alone a 5 year old, has more than a 2 minute attention span? And we're going to give him his own gun? This is insane! Continue to allow the mentored hunt, but only with one gun, and if a junior antlerless permit is to be used, only to kids 10 years old and older. Far too many adults are using the junior permits as a way of doing an end run around regulations.
- 15315 Having hunted Douglas County for the past 33 years, I believe that a couple more years of Bucks only would help tremendously. Talking with other deer camps, the thoughts are the same. If the doe tag numbers are raised, it will hurt the gains that have been made over the past few years. The deer numbers are just not there yet. I'm at the hunting cabin from Sept - December, including hunting all 9 days of every gun season. Even driving the logging roads all Fall and walking through areas scouting, you are lucky if you even see a flag of a deer. Along with that, I have five trail cameras working different locations 24 hours a day. You would be very surprised at the lack of deer pictures.
- 15316 I like hunting the northern forest. I do not have to kill a deer to be successful but it is sure nice to see one occasionally. In the 52 years I have hunted in Douglas county the last 7 years were the worst as far as seeing deer. I averaged 6 deer sightings for each of those last 6 years. 2017 was slightly better at 12 sightings. I hunt every day of the gun season and occasionally bow hunt also. (I live 5 hours from our cabin) I am not a tavern hunter, I am in the woods. We need to get the herd increased before giving out doe tags on public land. That in my opinion is why they are scarce. (The years of unlimited \$2 doe tags). Thanks for allowing me to give my opinion.
- 15317 Too much attention is paid to the areas of the county with low deer populations in determining quotas. The folks who hunt those areas have to realize that after several relatively mild winters, if the deer population hasn't rebounded to their satisfaction, it probably isn't going to with the current predator levels. They either have to work on their property to attract and hold more deer or find a new places to hunt. Sitting on the same stump for the last however many years over a pile of corn and wishing for the glory days of seeing 20 deer a day isn't going to happen again. Also, I also feel that more effort needs to be made in educating hunters on CWD.



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- 15318 This winter is much more severe than at the time of the March 12th hearing. We still have 2 feet of snow in the woods at the time of this writing (April 2nd) with more on the way. I think given the winter severity lingering this will have a impact on fawn production. I hunt in southwestern Douglas County and I do not believe the deer numbers are high enough to justify additional antlerless harvest at this time. Additionally, oak regeneration is very high and I do not see any evidence of overbrowsing. I strongly request that the counsel reduce the antlerless harvest allocation in Douglas County in 2018 to no more than 500 killed. I would prefer bucks only.
- 15319 Predator population is quite high in Douglas County, Wolf issues has to be addressed and is way to large in certain areas of county. Wolf population is thriving and damaging the deer population in areas. Bear population is highest I have ever seen. This past winter might have been more severe than first thought. A lot of snow at the end of the season when deer already stressed from cold weather and snow hindering movement. Winter kill will be an issue again to consider. Deer numbers are still struggling from back to back bad winters several years ago. I see a bit of improvement but not much so at a very slow recovery rate.
- 15320 Good day, I would suggest adapting a different or longer deer hunting time frame. The reason is it is very hard for many to travel to visit family during the Thanksgiving holiday and also hunt at the same time in Wisconsin. We visit my family in Missouri for Thanksgiving on Thursday and with a DriveTime it leaves maybe at the most two days restaurant and that is difficult for our family. It is hard for me to train my young son and give him a passion for deer hunting only have to take family time away from our loved ones. Appreciate everything you guys do some help in this area thanks so much
- 15321 It would be very helpful if in larger geographical counties like Douglas with diverse habitat for the county to be broke into management units to better manage the herd. This one size fits all mentality doesn't take into account the large forest/public land areas with higher portions of predators versus the private smaller tracts of land with less. It would be helpful to address the unique needs of these differences differently when it comes to antler less tags. We certainly could do a better job locally managing the herd than people making those decisions down in Madison.
- 15322 I have noticed the number of deer increasing slightly over the past few years. When up ATVing or hunting I've seen a reasonable number of healthy deer, compared with five years ago where deer sightings where few and far between. I'm encouraged by the current population growth and would hate to see a several year set back due to over issuing antlerless permits. I believe the antlerless tag is a great option for youth hunters to encourage the enjoyment and future participation in hunting but would recommend limiting bonus tags and antlerless tags to all other hunters.
- 15323 I am a landowner and hunt my own land. Keep the private/public tags at 60%/40%, I do not like the proposal of 50/50 for 2018. More tags should go to people who own land in the area and pay taxes in the area verses public tags which tend to go more to those who live outside of the area. Tourism \$\$ I know is part of this, but when one has a vested interest in the hunt where one lives, consideration should be given to that first. People shooting more than one antlerless before officially using their antlerless tag is a concern. Not sure what to do about this.
- 15324 I believe a increase in doe tags in Douglas county is a little premature, since the deer numbers are just getting decent and the hunting is finally getting good! Nobody wants to sit in a deer stand all day and not see any deer(especially young kids who are just getting out hunting for the first time). I also don't see any negative effects on the enviroment (forestry ect..) having a higher deer population . At least the areas I hunt. I would also love to see someday in Douglas county quality deer management not just deer numbers being managed.
- 15325 Thanks to the CDAC committee members for their dedication to our shared resource. It is appreciated. Although the quota for antlerless deer increased from last year to this it is not nearly enough. Buck harvest and densities have been increasing over the past 3 years. Almost to the point they were the mid-2000's. High density deer herds are something we should not be managing for due to habitat reductions that occur when deer numbers are high. High herd densities make the population less resilient to harsh winters due to this habitat loss.



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- 15326 Not sure how increasing the antlerless tag quotas will increase the over herd size? I fully support the zero antlerless tag quota that was in place in Douglas county the previous years and would like to see that go into affect again. Before the zero antlerless tag quotas it would be days into the season before we seen a deer. After the 2 (?) years of zero antlerless tags seasons we are now seeing deer all the time, not just during deer season. I would prefer to a see lot of deer during the hunting then not seeing deer for days on end.
- 15327 The deer heard has improve a lot since no doe tags and mild winters. Just wondering since this winter never ends and still getting snow in april. Do not decide on doe tags until this long winter is over. This 9 day gun season question on no more party hunting is wrong like are family us older guys is nice having young guys around to help drag a deer out. Do not shoot deer for the nephew kids. This all started because the new age limit for hunting. I know me and other friends will quite rifle hunting
- 15328 I strongly support the 2017 proposal to cut Douglas County in three parts. The deer population rebounded well in the North and East parts of the county. The Southwest corner of Douglas County is overrun with wolves, coyote, coywolf, bear and bobcats. When is the DNR going to address the predictor problem in the SW corner of the county??? The county should be managed in sections in order to address the predictor problem in the SW corner while offering different harvest goals elsewhere.
- 15329 i am extremely concerned about the spread of CWD and the fact that it appears to be spreading via captive deer herds. It also appears to me that this is being ignored by the DNR and state politicians probably because the captive deer herd industry has a strong lobby. (the DNR/politicians are being paid off). If this continues the average hunter will no longer have a public deer herd to hunt. The only place to hunt will be the fenced in deer farms - it will be a rich mans sport.
- 15330 there are still areas in this unit that are devoid of deer and nobody wants to talk about that, although with the wolf population I don't know if it will ever come back (something has to get done about this) there's also the baiting issue nobody wants to talk about.this county is in terrible shape compaired to 20 years ago and we need to look back see what has changed and take a long look at how we've screwed this up and come up with a viable plan on rectifying the situation.
- 15331 I would like to see a minimal waste policy enacted, similar to the State of Alaska. I was disturbed with number of antlerless carcasses I found this season with only the loins removed and the rest left to be wasted. Not only is this a waste of a precious resource but a very disturbing image for non-hunters who also use these lands. With electronic registration the honor system is be abused by wasteful hunters.
- 15332 The unit's CDAC is charged with making antler-less harvest decisions for the WHOLE COUNTY. Not increasing antler-less quotas will not guarantee increased deer numbers in areas of the County where deer numbers have been low due to poor environmental or habitat problems. I would predict that deer numbers will increase to possibly detrimental levels in areas with suitable habitat, putting both out forests and agricultural areas at greater risk to degradation.
- 15333 I believe the antlerless quota is a bit high for 2018. This winter is dragging on, and, I see the deer really looking for something to eat. Other wildlife as well (Turkeys), are doing the same. What field is exposed due to snow melt, has deer on them. We see more deer, yes, but, should next winter be similar/colder, there will be issue(s). The predators, wolf specifically, do have effect where I live and hunt. They need State control, NOT Federal.
- 15334 Buck goal of 3,500 is too low....if general hunting population in Douglas County was aware that we are at 97% of goal, I think you would have a revolt from the general hunting population. Buck goal should be 4,000 - 4,500 (or a tighter range of 4,000 to 4,200) I support an increase to 750 antlerless tags, but I believe 1,000 in excessive given a now-bad winter in the southern end of the county, continued predation, etc. Don't overdo it.



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- 15335 By my observations the deer have not increased over the last several years. We have been having serious problems with timber wolf's and black bears both doing destruction on the deer herd. 10 years I found 115 shed deer antlers and last year I found 7. I think that tells me the whole story. Probably 25-30 does for one buck. This is terrible. I would venture to say that I won't even find 7 antlers this spring. The deer need help really bad.
- 15336 From my observations in the woods the population is still rebuilding and doesn't need the added pressure of additional antlerless tags being permitted. The wolf and coyote population is still high and feasting on many deer in our area which is having an impact by keeping the deer population from rebounding like it should. Before you give more antlerless permits you should implement a program for reducing the wolf and coyote population.
- 15337 I feel our CDAC group is great. Their hands are tied with one large unit. They can't control the out of control predator problem. Only the human problem. There are a lot of parts of Douglas County that could hold a lot more deer. Those places need more time to grow and more predator control. Please find some help on this. Land values are down Young hunter participation is down Predators are up More feed and clear cuts than ever
- 15339 Minutes from the last meeting talked about predator issues. Predators is a minimal issue compared to people and their activities. We need to stop baiting. Baiting concentrates deer hence concentrating predators. This is why you have pictures of predators. I don't get any wolf pictures. Baiting forces deer to be nocturnal and limits their movements. If we get rid of baiting people will see more deer during hunting periods.
- 15338 Way, way, way too many antlerless tags available for 2017, and a "stupid" amount of antlerless tags being considered for 2018. Stop killing all the does and let the northern herd grow! They have a difficult time the way it is with the high number of bears, wolves, bobcats, and harsh 2017-2018 Winter/ 2018 Spring. Let a life-long hunter's observations matter. Please.
- 15340 2017 was the first year in the last five years that I saw an increase in deer numbers. Let's not start patting ourselves on the back quite yet. We have a long way to go to return deer numbers to where they should be. There still remains to be way too many predators and those numbers continue to grow, especially the wolf population. So let's take it easy on the number of bonus tags that you issue. Thanks for your time.
- 15341 This has turned out to be a severe winter. Last time doe were over harvested deer sightings became scarce in this area. The herd in this area was just starting to recover. I would deeply restrict the taking of doe for one more season at least. Also, the predator/prey ratio here seems way out of balance. The bear population is way high. Wolf and coyote are high also.
- 15342 The DNR offering limitless tags in the past, along with over abundance of wolves, is what got us into this mess (depletion of deer numbers). We need to increase and establish a good foundation of the herds again before doling out too many tags. With the snowstorms and prolonged winter, our fawn production/success rate could be negatively affected - need to keep that in mind.
- 15343 Personally I wish baiting was being discussed, to potentially be banned in the area. Baiting brings all the deer to a concentrating area making its footprint on the property it is being attracted too and away from the natural food choices for the other hunters who put more effort into hunting. Baiting also I feel concentrates deer in an error for natural predators.
- 15344 I feel if you look at the number of private property owners in the county that meet the requirements for "private" tag issuing you would see that the numbers don't justify penalizing those who don't have the luxury of owning enough land to qualify. Why are the private land owners getting preference, if crop damage is the concern isn't there reimbursements for that.
- 15346 I have trail camera pictures of many bears, some wolves coyotes and what I believe is a mountain lion on my trail cameras. These predators have been there for years, and I believe an important part of a healthy eco system is managing the predator population as well as the deer population. Additional bear tags and a wolf season would help the cause.



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- 15345 It's a very sad day in Wisconsin when big industry uses lobbying dollars to control the deer herd for their best interest instead of the interests of the general public and the animals themselves. Using science to determine the deer herd is a great thing however, not using all the information available makes the science not as accurate as it could be.
- 15347 You have done good so far, don't increase the numbers until we have them. If you want to hand out antler less tags, give them to the youth hunters. We have too many wolves in Douglas Co., until the wolf numbers are controlled we will not have a deer population large enough to have the antler less tags we would all like to see. BUCKS only
- 15348 Need DMU's back. Need wolf hunt. Hunting camps have few hunters. Most of the kids stopped hunting, they never see deer. Deer numbers are improving but have a long way to go. We had 14 guys in our camp, now we have 2. Did not shoot a buck in 2017, but at least saw a few does. Land prices low and few sales. Businesses still struggling.
- 15349 COME HOME AND HUNT WITH YOUR FAMILY..... I would like to see a deer license made available to family members who have moved out of state and want to come home to hunt. A shortened license from Thanksgiving to Sunday at reduced cost or a 3 day license. Grandpa could hunt with his children and grand children as the hunting tradition began.
- 15350 The deer numbers are up from the levels of recent years but they have a ways to go. Our camp saw deer every day which is a change from the last 5 or so years. However the number of bucks seen was still low. Keeping the antler-less down for one to two more years can better help the population rebound.
- 15351 After watching this management unit collapse over the years, it is very frustrating. I have given up on hunting with the minimal amount of opportunities we have. Hopefully someday it comes back. In my opinion, we need to shut down hunting in this area for a season or two to get a dramatic bounce back!
- 15352 This winter will have a direct effect on the population, we're seeing fewer deer each ride we take in the county, 1x 2x/wk. I do not believe a wait and see rationale is appropriate for 2018. I think there ought to be NO antlerless tags for anyone this year. Thus is my words for the birds!
- 15353 These quota numbers are way too low. I hunted public land in Douglas County and saw a ton of deer. Also driving around in Douglas County I see an incredible amount of deer. It is time to start issuing a lot more doe tags and try to slow down the unsustainable population growth in the county.
- 15354 I am for keeping youth antlerless tags valid for the 2018 season. I was able to be with my son to harvest a nice doe on public land. He was so excited to be able to do this. With no antlerless tags this would of never happened. Great job keeping the youth involved in this hunting !!!!!
- 15355 In the past three months, I have seen more deer along my daily 60 mile commute along the HWY 53 / 27 / 2 roadways than I have in the last 15 years. Unable to tell how many male vs female, but the number of deer near residential areas along these routes have increased greatly.
- 15357 Dairyland deer numbers are still way down. Predator population including wolves and coyotes are way up. Our hunting party consisting of 10 out of state hunters haven't participated in hunting up here in 6 years now due to mismanagement of and near non existent deer numbers
- 15356 I would support a 1,000 antlerless tags for Douglas County. I believe 2,500 is way too many for the deer that we have. To try and increase the deer herd, with a goal in mind of killing 1,000 antlerless deer is counter productive. The council needs to rethink this proposal.
- 15358 I think that owners of private land should be notified of antlerless permit first since they are paying the taxes. They should have an early registration before the public land goes on for antlerless permits. Ex you went on line and it said 35,000 people before you.



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- 15359 Keep youth tags valid for 2018 ! Awesome to keep the kids involved with the number of antlerless tags out in this unit . Nice way to give a the youth the chance to harvest a deer if you only see a doe . Keeps them looking forward for the sport !
- 15360 I feel the increase in antlerless Tags outside of the metro is unwarranted if the quota is 1000 deer. We hit that last season with 1/2 as many tags judging off these numbers. Why increase the tags if the current quota was hit under previous tags?
- 15361 I own forest land. I am trying to grow trees. The high amount of deer is taking their toll on the trees. Several years ago new planted trees were not getting hit too hard. They are now. It is having an economic impact on me. More doe tags.
- 15362 Deer herd just starting to come back after years of low numbers. Keep antlerless harvest to a minimum. Predators are a concern with high populations at this time. Appears winter is still hanging on and will influence winter kill of herd.
- 15363 I am for allowing the youth antlerless tag to be valid in this unit . It's great for our youth to have a chance to harvest a deer regardless of tags that are limited . The dnr does a great job promoting youth ! Keep up the good work!
- 15364 Predation, youth hunt, tribal harvest, nuisance and damage permits also add to our antlerless harvest. In addition to our quota, we have taken 500-600 antlerless deer every year including out three years with Zero Antlerless permits...
- 15365 There seem to be a lot of deer in areas where there is a lot of private property....but the land that is open to the public is HIGHLY pressured and the deer population has consistently been quite low. Thanks for taking my comments.
- 15366 Wisconsin needs to overhaul the CWD management plan and get more aggressive in slowing the spread to the northern forests. The deer farms need to be regulated much more to decrease the risk of CWD spreading from farms to the wild.
- 15367 I'm glad to see the equal amount of antlerless tags given to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of deer for CWD reasons and private landowners using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 15368 Wolf numbers are increasing steadily and coupled with other predators(bear, coyote, and bobcats) put much pressure on the herd. Keep the youth tags, but don't get so "happy" with doe tags for at least a few more years.
- 15369 Keeping the youth antlerless tags valid for 2018 would be a great way to keep the youth involved being the number of tags out there. I'm all for keeping youth tags valid !!! Great for the youth hunters!
- 15370 The deer numbers are increasing, but we shouldn't increase the number of bonus tags over 2017 until further increases are seen. I enjoy the crossbow season and do not want to see that season curtailed.
- 15371 Northern areas are still affected by winter kill off and wolves! Herd is still not up to past years when permits sold for \$2 and hunters filled the food pantries! Let's not let that happen again!
- 15372 Don't go back to giving out too many antlerless permits. I think some areas have not recovered. When you look in the fields there seems to be quite a few deer but just remember thats most of them.
- 15373 I am seeing many more deer this year. I sense there will be a large explosion of deer if more doe permits are not offered. Car collisions seem to be rampant. Offer more doe tags.
- 15374 The high numbers of deer are causing damage to our forest and especially our county forest. This is costing all landowners in this county money now and in the future.
- 15375 Doe numbers too low would like to see no doe tags issued except letting the youth hunters only harvest Doe . I Believe in getting youth out in the woods hunting .



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- 15376 suggest reducing anterless tags in Douglas county to 500-750 level rather than 1,000 Thanks to all the members of the council members for their commitment of time.
- 15377 Seeing more wolves than deer . Every year we see far more wolf kills . We about ready to quit hunting in Douglas County waste of time and money no deer .
- 15379 Too many wolves. Deer #'s improving but it has a long way to go. Businesses and land values in this area are suffering because of both these factors.
- 15378 Saw very few deer ..this should be a buck only zone ..I have property there which I'm selling due to the lack of deer and over abundance of wolves ..
- 15380 I would like to see the availability to test my harvested deer for CWD. I would also like to see a total ban on deer farms in our state.
- 15381 With the current rise in deer numbers, I would expect that they will increase greatly. I think we need to issue more doe tags.
- 15382 Due to the severity of the winter and the snow depth still in April, no doe tags should be given except to the youth hunters.
- 15383 Worried about the severity of this past winter. It is starting to get long and there's still a pretty deep snow cover.
- 15384 I see no reason to have anterless tags for private land owners.They all have food plots and bait piles on there land
- 15385 There are way too many deer collisions casing damage to vehicles and injuries to people.
- 15386 You need to make more antlerless permits available for private landowners.
- 15387 I support not issuing any anterless harvest permits for Douglas County!
- 15388 We need to open more Private land to the General Public to hunting.
- 15389 Ban any deer farms in the county. Ban baiting in the county.
- 15390 To many wolves. To many bears. Need to manage predators too.
- 15391 Just let youth hunters have the doe tags
- 15392 Too many car-deer accidents.
- 15393 Too many wolves!!
- 15394 Too many wolves
- 18023



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Dunn, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

63 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 34
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 7
I hunt in this unit: 58
General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 54
Bow: 37
Crossbow: 22
Muzzleloader: 31

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 21.6
Maximum: 68

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 34
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 10
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 2
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 8
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 6
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 15
Fewer: 15
Same: 23
More: 7
Many More: 0
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	1	9	29	12	12	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	2	27	20	13	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	2	26	16	15	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	5	43	15	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	15	46	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	24	36	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	3	59	1
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.73
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.56
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.23
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.55
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.18
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.23
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.16
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.03
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.16
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.81
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.32



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Dunn, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15395 I would like to see the crossbow hunting continue with the archery as it has been the past few years. Hunting with a bow has become difficult for me due to back injuries. This past season was my breaking point where I felt the need to purchase a crossbow for use. The bow aggravates my back and I no longer can drag a deer from the woods. I have to use a winch to pull out my deer and then winch it into my truck bed. After hearing recent discussions, I fear the crossbow season may be cut back to a minimal amount of time. I do not have an handicap designation nor do not fit the over 65 age that would allow me to use a crossbow if the crossbow season is changed. However, I am 60 years old and with my current physical condition, I am as good as I am going to be. So, would it be possible to lower the age requirement from 65 years old to 60? The age of 60 would allow me to continue to hunt during the bow season that I have thoroughly enjoyed. I did read a current statistic from the NRB that indicated 52 as the average age of crossbow hunters. Although I don't have any statistics to indicate how many hunters fit the 60 and over age, I don't believe this lowered age would be a burden on the season or the deer herd. Thank you for your consideration and all the hard work that the CDAC performs to create great hunting opportunities!

15396 The central farmland zone of Dunn County holds tremendous potential for trophy class bucks. Myself and numerous landowners support and actively are trying to manage for larger deer antlers and healthier deer. From a personal stand point, I have invested nearly \$350,000 in land, ponds, woodland mgt and other improvements for the sake of improving the size of bucks. In the past 10 years, I have killed only a couple of bucks, in most years don't harvest one. I purposely leave the smaller bucks go. The ones I let go are often are shot often don't make it past 2 1/2 years old because they are shot. I fully support youth harvesting ANY deer, but it's time Wisconsin joins the ranks of Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Sask & Alberta for larger deer. I know WI is #1 in B&C entries, but considering the 600,000 hunters in the state, the numbers taken each year isn't very good. The DNR Needs to open a hunting/trapping season for wolves in Northern Wisconsin. Lastly, coyotes in have become problematic in Dunn. DNR should loosen their trapping and snaring laws to enable coyotes to be harvested more aggressively. I find numerous deer kills every year from coyotes.

15397 The question about how many deer did I see the in 2017 over 2016 is sort of deceptive when I only saw two deer each year during the gun season. You should be asking numbers to help gauge the effectiveness of the question. In the 8 years I've been hunting Dunn County, the deer numbers on the private farm I've hunted have steadily gone down to the point where I've seen only 4 deer in the last 3 gun seasons. From 2010-2015 I was seeing about 20 deer during just opening weekend. Now, I feel lucky to see a couple deer over the 9 day season. Landowner bow hunted over a dozen times and only saw 4 does and one small buck on the 160 acre which is about 1/2 woods and is next to a 600 acre private wooded property with two State properties within 1/2 mile. People ARE shooting more deer than are being reported. The last two years, I've overheard locals at a local bar talk about shooting deer and simply not registering because of the new on-line only registration system. Landowners are shooting deer and processing them without ever talking them in to register so they can save their tags for a "real" registration. So your harvest numbers are heavily skewed low.



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- 15398 There is nowhere near the population of deer in the area of this unit I hunt like there was when I first started all this antlerless hunting has ruined it especially around the public land. In my opinion one public antlerless tag per hunter would be plenty if any at all. Being able to see deer consistently is what helps new people get into the sport and enjoy it. I also know there is better populations around the large tracts of private land where only certain people get to enjoy having the opportunity to hunt that land unlike where you have many hunting the same piece of public and not seeing deer. There just needs to be more focus of conserving herds in or around public areas. I have no problem with others having opportunity to hunt public but some are greedy and need to shoot as many as they can just cause all tags they can buy makes it ok to some. It's similar to fishing when people know fish are in an area they will be there catching limits day after day until they either move or are fished out.
- 15399 Please stop the public / private designation for doe permits. What difference does it really make? If you are doing it to find out how many people are hunting public land, simply ask the question when you buy your license. I hunt both private and public due to loss of land availability to hunt. This is mostly due to farmer's now leasing their land, but also some is due to a newer generation of young hunters in which farmer's are letting their next of kin hunt their land instead. The private / public designation complicates things. Deer do not always die on the side of the fence where you shoot them, especially during bow season. It could also limit who stands where while making a deer drive if hunting both sides of the private/public fenceline. This is a huge crutch!
- 15400 Would like to see the muzzleloader season changed to the weekend after the close of regular gun season then run 9 days giving the deer a week to settle down and hunters 2 weekends to hunt. We also really liked the holiday hunt. The youth deer season has been a great blessing to our family over the years and really helped my children to learn hunting skills a low pressure environment and create a life long love of deer hunting, but would like to see it moved back a week or two into October, deer movement would be better weather cooler not so much foliage. Thank you so much for the great work you do!!
- 15401 The hunt in Dunn county is a quality hunt right now on private land. However, CWD is a huge issue that many people are still in denial about. I support an immediate ban on all baiting, feeding, mineral, supplements, urine based scents, attractants, etc... At best, our greed will rob our children of the chance to enjoy hunting as we have. At worst, it could cost us our health- possibly our lives. Also, not tagging deer is a joke. Will make the poaching problem in northern Dunn county even worse. 5 carcasses left in the ditch on my road in the last 2 years. Thank you for considering my comments.
- 15402 I live in the southern most area of this unit and over the past several years the deer numbers have steadily declined. Earn a buck was very hard on this area of the unit, deer numbers decreased by more than 75 percent and have never recovered. Whether it is predation, way too many antlerless tags, winter impact or the culmination of all the above. Personally would like to see buck only and a group party doe tag. We are headed in the wrong direction with a doe only season. Sounds like the council members are too concerned with horns and not deer management in their best interest.
- 15403 Currently there is no evidence of CWD in Dunn county however it is very close proximity. In my opinion it would be very important to do all that can be done to keep it this way. I am very frustrated with the state government officials, not DNR officials, and their lack of insight, concern or commitment to do anything about the spread of CWD !!!!!!! At least they the legislators could provide the necessary resource to the few Biologists left in the DNR offices so they could be doing something rather than sitting back and waiting for things to change.
- 15404 Opening up more hunting opportunities will not increase the number of hunters with the joke of a licensing system the state had implemented. This system opens the door to dishonest hunters, hunters on the fence of whether or not to go hunting doesn't have to buy a license until the season begins and can go hunting without a license, pull out their smartphone in the woods, buy a license on the spot to cover a harvested deer. If they didn't get a deer, no need to buy a license. That hurts the DNR operating funds.



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- 15405 This management area by county is very unrepresentative of the actual areas. The previous management zones represented the areas specifically and allowed for focused herd management. This county in particular, as well as several others in the state, are quite diverse from one end of the county to the other. I fully support redrawing management zones to better represent the type of habitat and herds in those areas. The county system is not a long term viable way to manage these areas.
- 15406 With public land limited here, I have noticed an ever growing number of people and much fewer deer numbers on that land. Large private parcels seem to have an abundance of deer and very few antlerless are being shot on these tracts in our area. I think the proposed private vs public quota is in line but I also believe that in the end there are considerable numbers of deer being shot on public land with private tags. This allows private land owners to keep "their" deer on their land.
- 15407 Too much hunting pressure. There are lots of deer, but they are hunted from Sept thru Jan. They are forced to go nocturnal early season on and reduce chances of harvest. When I did see deer, there would be groups of 5 to 20 does, maybe 1 buck. Lots of "baiting" going on. Seems strange in an agricultural area, but see and know, that the use of "flavored, scented feeds" are very prevalent in the woods, making for a tough hunt for those of us that choose not to do that.
- 15408 In 2017, I planned to partake in the Holiday Hunt, but the severity of the weather limited/ discouraged participation in the hunt. I view the Holiday Hunt as another opportunity to harvest an antlerless deer if a person has not harvested one during the regular gun season. I would like to see the Holiday Hunt continued, for this reason. It's an additional option for people, especially considering work schedules and time available to hunt.
- 15409 It is truly remarkable how low the deer population is in this area compared to years ago but the assumption continues to be there are so many deer. I have a couple hundred acres of prime deer country that I use to be able to see a few deer every time in the stand. Now I'm lucky to see one maybe every 3rd sitting. Until the population recovers to at least its old level, I have stopped hunting and encourage others to do the same.
- 15410 Crossbows are causing significantly higher deer mortality, unrecovered deer and decreased opportunities for archery hunters. Crossbow use needs to be limited to a significantly shorter and earlier season. The main reason given for legalizing crossbows was for hunting recruitment, which would still be possible during the first two weeks of archery season when the weather is significantly nicer for younger and older hunters.
- 15411 Regular rifle hunting pressure is high on public lands. Youth gun season (I'll be hunting with 2 youth's this year, did with 1 in 2017), archery season, and muzzleloader season pressure was light on public lands. Any way to expand length of youth season, or make holiday hunt youth only? I work alternating weekend's, and if I'm not off of work, my kids can't hunt. That happened to me in 16, and may again in 18.
- 15412 We need to have less tags issued period! The amount of deer are not there compared to years past. We need to limit how many deer are harvested or we will be hurting in the future. I understand this is all about politics and insurance companies paying off politicians but we need to take care of this issue or my kids won't have the chances at a deer that I had.
- 15413 If you want to reduce deer numbers by killing more does give out more farmland free with license tags. Like 2 per license. The percentage of tags used will probably go down but the actual number of killed deer will go up. The tags cost virtual nothing to produce and because of number of tags that would be available more actual tags will be filled.
- 15414 I think deer numbers are still strong. Less people move around though, so less get pushed during deer season. Every property has a big tower that people sit in all season. I am fine with that, but that is why people see less deer.
- 15415 Would love to see a point requirement for buck harvest or something to get the average age up, Dunn county is a Buffalo co type of buck factory if something is done to get the age going in the right direction.



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- 15416 I would like to see the crossbow season stay as it is in november. It is getting harder to pull my bow due to a bum shoulder. thank you
- 15417 something to consider is 1 buck per year even if hunting with multiple tags(example, Archery or Crossbow and Gun) could still fill your bonus tag (doe) with each.
- 15418 I do believe the crossbow season should be slightly shorter than the 2017 season and only one antlerless tag given for crossbow hunters and bowhunters
- 15419 Separate cross bow season.The success rates for cross bow is in line with shotgun success, not archery. Go to one buck killed in all seasons.
- 15420 I don't like the private/public preference when buying a license. I don't think it matters where the deer was killed.
- 15421 There is a big problem in northern Dunn County with people using private land doe tags on public land.
- 15422 Plenty of deer in the county. Should have 2 antlerless tags per license and Holiday Hunt.
- 15423 I would like to see the crossbow season separated from the bow season and shorter.
- 15424 Would vote for apr
- 15425 none
- 18024



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Eau Claire, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

46 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 32
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 7
I hunt in this unit: 39
General interest in this unit: 5

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 35
Bow: 23
Crossbow: 12
Muzzleloader: 16

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 21.13
Maximum: 49

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 24
Mostly Private Land: 6
Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 5
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 0
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 5
Fewer: 16
Same: 18
More: 3
Many More: 3
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	8	17	12	6	2



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	2	20	13	10	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	3	21	6	6	10
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	0	2	16	8	2	18
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	0	2	13	8	5	18

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	1	28	16	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	0	11	19	16

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	8	34	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	12	30	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	3	39	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.56
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.79
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.21
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.37
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.21
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.26
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.26
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.23
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.44
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.12
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.49



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Eau Claire, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 15426 For this units CDAC I feel that some progress is being made but not enough. Far to many people do not express their opinions and they have great opinions. Reasons for not expressing is, no internet, do not care to attend meetings due to the same talk happy people that attend every year, the amount of trust with the CDAD's is still not their. Change in this DMU is slow and I understand this can happen but, when hunters have seen poor management for so many years we kind of want faster results. To get some of the hunters and folks with great opinions to attend the CDAC meetings hold them out in the country at some local establishment where these folks can feel comfortable, not allot of people want to drive to Eau Claire, bad traffic, bad parking, bad experience. Again, the CDACs seem to be headed in the right direction, Thanks for that.
- 15427 WDNR should look at Iowa as a model of how to preserve a quality deer herd. I've hunted Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa over the years and Iowa offers the best hunting experience of the 3 states, and it's not even close. The only expectation I have is that I see deer 90% of the time I'm in the field. If I sit 10 time a fall, I should see deer on 9 of the sits. It's VERY hard to get kids interested in the hunting tradition if you take them out in the stand and you don't see any action. We need to increase our deer heard by controlling the number of deer harvested. Buck only, and maybe even a 4 pt antler restriction would allow for not only more deer, but a better quality/experience as well. Thanks for your consideration.
- 15428 The deer herd is way down in many areas in eau Claire county yes there are areas that are better than others but for the most it's way down. Stop wiping the deer herd out. But the hole state the deer herd is way down. So stop killing deer because u get incentives from the insurance companys. I want my kids and my grand kids to have a good opportunity to have a good hunting in the future.
- 15429 The number of deer in total has declined in recent years. The number of bucks we see here is far higher than does!! I identified only Three different does last year but identified over seven different bucks living in the area. Also,the number of button bucks I've identified outnumber the doe fawns by over Four to one. Something is wrong here!?! We cannot afford to shoot a doe in my area.
- 15430 I think one should be able to use a crossbow during bow hunting and gun hunting how it currently is structured now. I am a felon lost my right at 17 have now found a way to enjoy the outdoors again and harvest game, and hopefully introduce my son, girlfriend, and her two boys to are wonderful Outdoors. And maybe have a better chance of filling the freezer.
- 15431 The metro subunit will be a burden due to pigeon holing people where they can or cannot hunt even more by having to have separate tags to hunt different areas. The way the unit is drawn now including rural areas in the town of Seymour does not provide relief for people that are having 'issues' with deer eating their plants in the city.
- 15432 open the archery season to vertical bow hunting only on August 15th. allow hunters to choose vertical bow hunting or crossbow. one tag only! buck only! open the crossbow season October 15th and close all seasons the first weekend in January like we currently do.
- 15433 Decent deer numbers currently, but high numbers of antlerless deer. Our group pushed 34 deer out of an 80 acre drive and not a single buck. Lots of fawns in that number so that is positive.
- 15434 we just do not see very many deer anymore.i think we should do away with antlerless seasons for a while.when did it become ok to shoot baby deer,fawns.we should be ashamed with ourselves?



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 15435 As this is the first year for a Metro Sub-unit hunt let's see how it goes with the deer numbers in the City of Eau Claire. They are very high right now in the sub-unit.
- 15436 I feel the feeding regulations in Eau Claire County should be the reinstated for 2018. Baiting deer is a good way of controlling the harvesting of deer.
- 15437 Crossbow season needs to be limited. Many injured and lost deer on public lands. Hunters taking unethical shots with the cross bow.
- 15438 Question 1 should have a landowner category. there should be a landowner representative on the CDAC.
- 15439 Please separate the crossbow season from the archery season and make it shorter.
- 15440 Could not find a map of the exact boundaries for the sub metro zone.
- 15441 I would like to see baiting banned statewide.
- 18025



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Eau Claire, Central Forest

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73 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 22
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
I hunt in this unit: 66
General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 61
Bow: 42
Crossbow: 20
Muzzleloader: 16

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 24.55
Maximum: 62

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 17
Mostly Private Land: 14
Public and Private Land About Equally: 17
Mostly Public Land: 6
Exclusively Public Land: 12
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 15
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 19
Somewhat crowded: 9
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 11
Fewer: 14
Same: 25
More: 20
Many More: 3
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	8	10	14	13	26	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	9	20	12	26	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	8	11	13	12	25	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		42	27	2

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.65
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.97
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.29
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.47
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.26
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.26
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.22
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.40
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.75
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.43
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.68



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Eau Claire, Central Forest

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15442 There is no way you should be issuing any antlerless tags in the Central Forest on the public or private land. Needs to be buck only for a few more years. Your objective is to increase the deer herd. There is no way you are going to do that by issuing 100 tags on the public and 425 tags on the private land especially with the amount of predators. The gun buck kill and total buck kill all weapons are still at or near all time lows on public and private land. On public land in the Central Forest the gun buck kill was 432 in 2006 it has continually gone down since and is the second lowest ever recorded at 135 in 2017, down from 151 in 2016. From 2006 to 2017 the gun buck kill has gone down 69% on public land in the Central Forest. On public land in the Central Forest the total buck kill all weapons in 2006 was 529 and in 2017 the total buck kill all weapons on public land was 193 also the second lowest ever recorded, down from 211 in 2016. On public land in from 2006 to 2017 the total buck kill all weapons went down 64% even with the addition of the crossbow. DON'T THESE NUMBERS ALARM ANYONE!!!!. WAKE UP PEOPLE!!!! If you start issuing any antlerless tags you will actually be decreasing the population, going against your objective, shooting yourself in the foot, and back to square one. A predator management program needs to be developed. With high numbers of bear, coyotes, wolves, and bobcats it will be difficult to increase the population even with buck only. Throw in a bad winter or two and the deer herd will really be in bad shape. The 2017 post hunt population guestimate of 5900 in the Central Forest is ridiculous and not even close to the real number. This can be show by hunter surveys and kill numbers. This guestimate is determined by a highly flawed DNR SAK formula that is accurate to plus or minus 121% of the actual population. This population guestimate provides no value to the CDAC members and the general public, stop using it. If you take the population guestimate of 5900 and divide it by the 173 square miles of deer range in the Central Forest, you get 34 deer per square mile on average. ARE YOU KIDDING ME!!!!. You would be lucky if there is 10-15 deer per square mile in the Central Forest. Over browsing is a non-issue. The forestry contingency needs to remember they don't own the Eau Claire County Forest, the people do. Again it needs to be buck only until the population increases noticeably and the buck kill numbers get to more historically normal numbers before issuing any antlerless tags. CDAC members I thank you for volunteering your time and effort to manage the deer in Eau Claire County.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

15443 Dear Council, I am a property owner and have hunted here my entire life. There was a time we had too many deer and you could see the problems of over browse in the forests. We aggressively harvested antlerless deer (females) during this time to help manage the population but now we have gone too far and I believe the wolf has been a big contributor of that that none of us saw coming or saw coming as bad as it has turned out. The wolf hunts all year and there are a lot of them and they are doing a lot of damage to the population. With the wolf still protected we have no control over them and I believe if man does not stop harvesting the does, then between man and wolf there simply is not enough recruitment to stabilize the deer population. I am a huge believer in promoting kids to hunting, however to accomplish this we need kids to have fun, the best way for this, is to see a few deer each day. If not, next year the kid will tell his Mom, Dad or Uncle, no thanks and stay home and play games on his/her phone. I am fortunate to own some good hunting land in eastern Eau Claire County, last year I sat the first two mornings in top notch spots and saw zero deer in two mornings. When I told my hunting party what I saw, their jaws dropped. These two spots in the hay day of deer populations, I would see 25+ deer in a morning, granted that was too many but seeing 5 or 10 would be nice and I think a stable population, but I saw zero? It takes a long time to build a herd back from low populations, it takes only one season and bonus tags to bring down a population. My point is this, if we error on the side of having too many deer we can fix it in one season. Let's keep it Buck Only for another year and see what happens, it certainly will not take us to over population by doing so. However, I do agree that Youth Hunters should be able to harvest an antlerless deer if they wish. I do not think we should be shooting any does but I will trade the expense of deer population for a youth to have the ability to harvest an animal and keep their interest in hunting vs video games. Thank you for considering.

15444 Let me say this, my family/hunting group has been hunting Eau Claire County Public Forest since 1976, myself since 1991. The quality of deer (larger, more mature bucks) dramatically increased in the Mid 1990s when they started clear cutting sections of forest. However since about 2004 til present, the overall amount of deer in this area has dropped drastically. Not only do we hunt hard but we also hunt smart. We don't hunt over bait and many of our group hunt in some of the most prime locations in the county forest. The gun deer season the last few years has really been disappointing. We've got guys that sit all day opening weekend and may only see 1 or 2 deer. Opening morning last 5+ years extremely quiet, sometimes lucky to hear 20 gunshots by noon. However, sightings of hunters in the forest have also dropped by at least 50% I would say. Don't like to have ppl sitting right on top of you but at the same time not a lot of hunters out there moving deer around. We also do a lot of deer drives during the week, covering lots of ground. There is no way we on average see/push 3-4 deer on a drive. The majority of our deer sightings are 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 year old bucks. Trail cameras are out 7-8 months out of the year. Not a lot of does but even more worrisome in summer maybe only 1 or 2 different sets of fawns per camera. Also based on trail cam photos predator sightings are up drastically. I won't speculate how this is effecting the deer herd in the area but I have respect for the predators too, but I would say wolf, coyote and bear are overpopulated for this area. Lastly, in my opinion WAAY too many doe tags/permits issued, antlerless seasons thru the past 10 years. Some years I bet the permits outnumbered the actual antlerless population. The area still offers quality hunting opportunities, but the population has taken a big dive recently. Well hope this helps. Thanks



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- 15445 There are far too many deer in the Eau Claire County Portion of the Central Forest DMU - We have CWD in the very center of this small unit. I hunt within a short distance of the CWD infected deer farm. Through the years, ear tagged deer were seen REGULARLY outside the pens. Deer numbers need to be reduced to prevent the spread of CWD - Forest regeneration is already being impacted by deer in this unit. Oak regeneration is at a standstill as deer browse off any new growth each year. Low preference species like white pine are succumbing to browsing pressure. We also face a coming crisis- the emerald ash borer. EAB will get here and completely remove important sources of browse from the landscape- black, green, and white ash trees. Browsing stress on remaining species will only get worse -Deer in this unit already show nutritional stress through poor antler growth and low weights. A doe shot in 2016 aged 6.5 years +, yet field dressed at just 97 lbs (DMAP records suggest a dressed weight of 120 lbs should be average)- this was the largest in a group of 5 antlerless deer. A 3.5 year old buck killed in 2017 dressed at 130 lbs (DMAP records suggest a dressed weight of 145 lbs should be average) This unit is out of balance The Eau Claire County Portion of the Central Forest DMU was given a "bucks only, increase" designation in 2017- completely opposite of my observations in the field. Please give me the tools I need to reduce the number of antlerless deer where I hunt, or nature will do it for us
- 15446 My 40 years of hunting experience in the central forest unit, I can confidently say we do have the number of deer that I feel should be available for hunters and public satisfaction. I seldom see two fawns per doe. More often one or no fawn per doe. Not sure if predation or something else within the health of herd. I do not expect the population of the late 80's or so, however I clearly see much more predation impact along with the impact of significant doe harvest from years past. I specifically hunt the Eastern side of Kelly Road, Channey Road, Coon Fork and Township of Wilson areas. I strongly support 1 more year of no doe harvest. Introduce a conservative number of doe tags in 2020 and assess thereafter. One more year of no doe harvest would allow greater sample to determine level of other factors that may be lowering population. Last, I do not believe have no doe harvest has a significant effort on tourism on this area.
- 15447 My wife and I own a small 40 area farm in the central forest Eau Clair County town of Fairchild. I have hunted and trap there for 15 years. the deer population in the county forest almost doesn't exist with all the over harvest of deer. Not only by human and predators. I trap coyote and beaver most on the winter in the central forest I'm in the woods everyday all winter long so I see the deer movement on public is still very low but on the private you starting to see a few more. I would like to support the CDAC committee with there recommendation for the 2018 season on white tail deer.
- 15448 Consider issuing only private land doe permits. Continue to let the doe population grow back to how it once was. Slowly issue doe permits to avoid a slaughter the first year doe tags become available. Consider going back to Hunter's Choice permits. Consider one buck tag per hunter per year no matter the weapon. Continue to log county forest to create clear cuts and encourage regrowth. I believe after the birthing season this summer, you will be able to tell a difference in the amount of deer due to the buck only hunt.
- 15449 I see a lot of deer in this zone. Things that have changed are fewer hunters and better, larger, habitat areas. Having these larger clear cuts, makes it much more difficult to move deer, and actually see them. You can go into any one of these harvested areas and see scat, trails, and browse evidence. The deer are there. It is a good idea to listen to the wildlife biologists and foresters. They are the boots on the ground, year round, with data to back them up.
- 15450 This unit is mostly County Forest, with only 100 tags; considering hunter success the harvest will be less than 1 antlerless deer per square mile. seeing the browse line and oak regeneration browse, more antlerless need to be harvested. In keeping with desire to increase population an increase of 2% would be sufficient and allow more antlerless permits and a better chance to sample deer for CWD. Increase antlerless for public land to 400 tags.



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- 15451 Read in the paper that there was going to be resolutions submitted on CWD and Deer Farms spreading the disease. This gets to be a yearly thing by the same groups of people making the same false statements. It would be good for the DNR to start bringing the true facts about CWD out, how it really spreads and what the danger really is instead of continuing to have everyone's time wasted by this group of people.
- 15452 This unit should have an antlerless moratorium for five years to increase herd numbers to offset predation of wolves coyotes and bears. The interest in gun deer hunting is fading in this unit as is directly observed by viewing the local economy. Less hunters at restaurants, bars, campgrounds and gas stations. Not seeing numbers of deer in woods while hunting discourages young hunters more than anything.
- 15453 Listen to the landowners and people who hunt on this land. Wolves have continued to reduce the amount of deer each year as they continue to go unmanaged by our DNR and Government with too much power. Combine wolves with a brutally cold winter and I fully expect the population to dwindle even more. It's hard to keep an interest in hunting for our younger kids with no deer to see.
- 15454 Deer populations have continued a steady decline. So much so, that interest in hunting is also steadily declining. Hunting connects families and serves as a great Wisconsin asset. Wolves are awful in this area. Please DO NOT offer Doe tags in 2018. Just one more way to thin the herd, create hunter frustration and lose more hunters over time.
- 15455 I think overall there was thought into setting the goals for the fall. Thank you for taking the time. I live in the forest area and have since the 80's. The population was too high in the 80's, but was destroyed in recent years. The population is starting to climb, but is not at an acceptable level yet.
- 15456 Tough winter, very high predator numbers, high amount of hunting pressure and low number of doe are the reasons there should still be more time with 0 antlerless tags in the public land. If the objective really is to increase the herd here than another couple years without doe tags is needed for sure.
- 15457 Despite public opposition, I think we need to continue harvesting a small amount of does to ensure stable demographics and a healthy overall herd. How has CWD influenced your decisions? Young bucks and deer at concentration points should be targeted for harvest to manage the spread of CWD.
- 15458 We started seeing deer numbers creep up ever so slightly last summer. But for deer season, very few sightings / almost no shots heard. I harvested a young buck, I was the only person in my party of 8 that got one this year. Keep the does alive for one more year, please.
- 15459 Our unit is going to be changed to Central Farmland from Central Forrest. Each year we are seeing less and less deer. We were happy with no antlerless tags last year and would be this year also. Too many hunters killing off doe. Just not seeing deer like we use to.
- 15460 I have hunted this area for over 40 years deer numbers are still at an all time low. This year's hard crusted snow not only made it hard for deer but gave predators a huge advantage. Please give us buck only one more year.
- 15461 Predation in our hunting area continues to increase. This is evident by pictures on trail cams, seeing predators consistently out of tree stand, remains found in the woods, and generally seeing less deer year after year.
- 15462 Eau Claire County should be all Central Farmland Zone. These groups/people coming up with the numbers to increase or decrease herd sizes and we're these zone lines are have NO clue how many deer are in these areas.
- 15463 All private landowners should get a (one) free tag if they want one, we have these deer eating on our land crops and forest, and at least we should be able to harvest some venison for letting them eat.
- 15464 deer are very hard on regeneration of our young forest complicating getting young forests to get above browse levels and deer browse young oak seedlings to mortality in many instances!
- 15465 30 years ago when I started hunting our property you could see at least 30 deer a day during hunting. Now between 3 of us we are lucky to see that many in a season.



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15466 We are seeing less and less deer tracks and more wolf tracks which is very concerning. I feel one more year of antlerless tags would help tremendously.

15467 Cannot control the predator numbers (federal issue) but the more deer the more you feed the wolves.

15468 The cdac is finally on the right path, zero doe tags should mean zero doe tags period!

15469 If any tags available for Antlerless deer should be left for the youth

15470 Deer herd is not increasing on Public land, needs more time.

15471 see more predators than deer. bear, wolves, coyote, bobcat

15472 Bring back antlerless tags this year!

15473 Cross bows need better regulation

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Florence, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

131 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 25
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 37
I hunt in this unit: 121
General interest in this unit: 37

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 118
Bow: 60
Crossbow: 42
Muzzleloader: 35

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 29.52
Maximum: 63

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 26
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 22
Mostly Public Land: 17
Exclusively Public Land: 45
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 27
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 23
Somewhat crowded: 25
Very crowded: 15
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 19
Fewer: 32
Same: 37
More: 35
Many More: 6
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	6	6	34	25	59	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	5	34	28	54	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	8	6	26	26	61	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	18	105	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	62	60	9

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.96
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.66
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.07
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.31
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.21
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.17
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.27
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.75
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.36
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.48



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Comments for Florence, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15474 I believe the CDAC of Florence County has failed their task. The CDAC voted to maintain the deer heard at current levels. The antlerless harvest quota recommended will cause an increase to the heard. This is unacceptable, the biologist recommendation was based on the approved population objective to maintain the heard not to increase the heard. The chair of the CDAC should have stated this cannot happen. I believe the members of the committee are not following through with their tasks on the committee. I do not understand why the tourism representative would vote no on an additional season bringing in more hunters into the area for another opportunity to harvest an animal. This would add to the tourism of the county. The transportation representative also voted to effectively increase the heard rather than maintain the heard. I do not understand the logic to having more deer dead on the highways and then voted against an additional antlerless season so hunters can harvest a deer rather than it being hit on the highway. Again this is against the already approved mandate to maintain the heard. In reading the minutes of the meeting there was discussion regarding council members feeling the DNR population estimates are too high. My question is where is the science to prove this? I understand members of the public stating their opinions, however members of the CDAC should be relying on the WDNR information. Why is this being allowed to be used in the meetings? Under county-specific concerns there was a survey for landowners/hunters to fill out. What scientific information was gained from this form? From my understanding it was handed out at bars around the county and to people that the Tourism member knew personally. Anyone with a differing opinion were not allowed to fill out the form or those forms were disregarded. This kind of information should not be allowed to cloud the judgment of the CDAC members.

15475 I wonder why the county was not divided, and why the NRB was against it.... What was the explanation, because I never got one, or read any information on there reason.... You should put that out, as to there reason..... The large public land to the west, is a lot different than the farmland east of 101. I do see increase logging which is good, and I hope it continues. As far as predators, the wolves are here to stay, we just have to deal with it.... Even if they get delisted, they will never issue the amount of tags, to really ever get them under control, I can only think of a disease factor, to have any affect on them..... I also believe, and this is not popular to say, that the long bear dog training season, puts a lot of stress, which is not needed on the deer, that season is too long,,,,, You don't need 4 months to train a dog, for bears,,,,,,,,,,,,, I think baiting is a poor practice, but will never change,,,,,, I also believe that the CDAC has done a good job overall, but we are a far distance, from maintain, on the herd. Again maybe on the east end of the county, but not in the west area, where we should be looking to increasing the herd size..... Also I believe on a whole law enforcement of our deer season is surely lacking. We have one warden, who is over worked, and has too many tasks. Since LE is getting to be a joke, as for the lack of wardens, maybe the deputies can be hired to work and assist our wardens..... too much getting away will illegal killing of deer,,,,,,,,,,,,, I like the call in registration of deer, but not having to put a tag on a deer is ridiculous, and another burden for the wardens..... We need to support our wardens more.....



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- 15476 As an active manager of my private land in the county I spend a great deal of time and money managing for wildlife especially deer. The herd has significantly grown in the last few years. What a success! The CDAC's recommendation to maintain the deer herd I fully support! We should hold the herd at a sustainable level and continue to monitor its impacts on car/deer collisions, its impacts on forestry (our largest economic staple), and evaluate our hunter success. We should base all our decisions on the best available science. To truly maintain the herd (which is the CDAC's goal) we should listen to the WIDNR biologists' advice and set the quota at 2400 (which is still a 3% increase). The CDAC is not doing this they are increasing the herd by 10%!!!! It appears that the CDAC is managing the deer on the way they feel! This is not how science works! Why are we increasing the herd when our goal is to MAINTAIN the herd? The impacts on this type of management are going to give us a true measure of what maintain really means. We should manage to achieve the goals that have been set by the committee. After we do this at the end of the three-year cycle/goal we can evaluate and adjust the goal. It also seems as if some of the members of the CDAC committee are not representing their constituents and voting more on their personal beliefs. This is an issue that runs way deeper than just the CDAC and it would be good if we can trust our members on the decisions they are making for the group they are representing. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope you reconsider and follow the best available science to make your decisions! That's what our tax dollars are going to anyway!!
- 15477 Why do we have to do the same thing every 5-6 years? Look back the last 12-15 years at the quotas and the amount of tags issued. It seems like every 5-6 years we issue a huge amount of tags then for the next 3 years everyone complains that we need to grow the herd. If we are going to MAINTAIN the herd then lets maintain the herd NOT deplete it!! The tag levels are way out of line and should not be proposed this high. I am in no way against shooting antlerless deer but we had one year of increased buck harvest and we are going to jump off the cliff to the bottom again. Again how is this maintaining when in 2 years we will be where we where 3 years ago? Or how about the fact that we will have almost 20" of snow in April this year. I will say that I did see more 1 ½ year old bucks in 2017 but I did NOT see an overall increase in deer numbers. Lets set the quota at the same level as last year and if we have another increased kill in 2018 we can issue more tags for 2019. But if we do not see an increase kill we now know our safe limit and should not experience the roller coaster ride we have been having the last 12-15 years. I will admit I like the population trend the herd has been having the last couple years but in no way do I feel we are at the point to issue this amount of tags. All I ask is we look at the numbers and the trends over the last 12-15 years. I think it has been proven again and again people will shoot and shoot and keep shooting if they are allowed. Grandpa didn't leave me any Buffalo.
- 15478 4600 Antlerless tags to get 1600 antlerless harvested? Mother nature is not done yet and this winter hanging on will have an effect despite the WSI. Deer should be on the rebound and with snow and cold temps it will take a toll despite the WSI parameters that are used. If hunters would only use these antlerless tags were there are heavy populations like the open areas of the county that have ag land. But NO there are way to many that will hunt were numbers of deer are low and shoot the only deer they may see just to say they filled there tag. Way to many want a be hunters and not enough common sense conservation minded hunters. I am not against shooting antlerless deer were the numbers are high (hot spots) but these permits are to general letting hunters take deer from anywhere in the county. I walk my land a lot a do not see massive over browsing from to many deer. Poor management just like having to wait 10 to 12 years for a bear tag or starting up an Elk season ahead of its time. Government and politics need to be replaced by good old common sense. Maybe we wouldn't be trillions in debt if we followed this idea !



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- 15479 I am a life-long deer hunter of old management unit 40 in Florence county. Over the years there were good years and lean years to see deer while gun hunting. But the last 5 years have been a total disappointment. With the increase in wolf numbers, deer in the western part of the county has really dropped off. It has been increasingly harder and harder to even see a deer. Years ago the winters were a big factor whether we see deer or not. Now the winters have been rather normal and yet the deer herd in the areas of mostly public lands have dropped tremendously. There may be an increase of deer in the county, but certainly not in the western half of the county. The deer get better food in the eastern half due to the farm land. In the western part there is very little farmland. I believe it is extremely important to once again separate the county into two zones. The DNR needs to listen to local people on this issue, not move ahead as they have been these past two years. Thanks for this opportunity, Cabin owner in the western part of the county
- 15480 As a wildlife student at UWSP I have done undergrad research in Florence county. I have noted an increase in deer on our property. I do think that doe tags are important for maintaining a huntable population and pleasing hunters. At the same time I think that the amount of tags from 2017 is a good number of tags. After hard winters in 2013 and 2014 the young of those 2 years are now at sexual maturity and producing the new young. I'm sure that with the snow still on the ground this winter will also impact fawning this spring. Overharvest or an increase in tags in 2018 will lead to a decline again down the road. This is assuming there is an increase in hunter success. We have also noted decrease in coyotes with a decrease of them on trail cameras. At the same time we have not captured any photos of wolves. I am just stating some of the changes that I have noted in the past five years. I think that does should be kept at the same level as 2017 for the reasons I stated above and hope you take this into consideration. Thank you for your time.
- 15481 I'm concerned about the number of antlerless tags being proposed. The hunting on the old Goodman Tract was not much fun for many years - there were many days when hunters would go an entire day of sitting w/o seeing a deer. That seemed to start to change in the years after initiating a no-antlerless harvest in the area - there weren't many big bucks seen, but at least hunters were seeing more deer. I'm concerned that we are moving too quickly to implement increased antlerless harvest in the area again, especially given the long & cold winter and the fact that the wolf population continues to go unchecked. I'd ask that the board consider reducing or eliminating antlerless hunting, at least on public lands. I would be much more supportive of increased antlerless hunting in this unit, and across the state, if there was a minimum-size harvest (like 6-points, for example) for bucks that was also implemented. Most bucks observed or harvested on public lands are spikes or forks - and we wonder why interest in hunting is on the decline?
- 15482 Over the years I have seen deer numbers very high and very low. Since the introduction of the wolf it has never been high not to mention the high bear numbers which affect fawn numbers. I spend a great amount of time hunting grouse in the fall, so I pretty much know what deer hunting will bring. Although last year I saw more deer than the year before they were by no means abundant. I noticed an increase in the number of young bucks. The only way you can control a deer population is by taking does, I understand that. I believe that the deer population is still too low. In the last say 5 years when you sit on a deer stand and see maybe one or two deer in a 4 day stretch the taking of does to control the population makes little sense. I do believe that the foresters don't want to see anything but low deer numbers, and the DNR wants to sell as many antlerless permits as they can with their revenues on the decline. So if you want to keep deer numbers as low as possible you're on the right track.



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- 15483 Please keep the deer population up in Florence County. By giving so many antlerless tags out the deer population will decrease and eventually the hunters and deer will disappear. Structure the 2018 season like the 2017 season 1000 antlerless tags for private and public. The concerns high have with giving so many antlerless tags out is that yearling bucks will get shot as an antlerless deer which eventually will decrease the buck population, what the future winter's will be like, and how many private land owners use their antlerless tag on private land and don't get caught or don't register their antlerless deer and we all know that this happens. If you want more antlerless deer shot have one season like you did in the past have an either or tag, you can either shoot a buck or antlerless deer. Please listen to the hunters and residents in Florence and keep the deer population up because if the deer disappear so will the hunters and that eventually will hurt the economy.
- 15484 I have hunted in this unit for 60 years and have never seen the deer population lower. It is difficult for me to see more than 4 or 5 deer all season long and it has been 5 years since I've even seen a buck to shoot. I am a logger and to say that decisions on the number of deer you are trying to maintain is based on browsing is just not justified. I have logged on the former Goodman timber stand all my life, and when there were a lot of deer - in the 70's, browsing wasn't considered a problem and if a survey was taken of that timber stand today, it would no doubt show that there are an abundance of 40 -50 year old trees so is browsing a problem -especially with milder winters and more logging all the time providing browse in the form of tree tops etc.? Speaking of harsh winters, look back and tell me the winters were milder in the 70's with 2 feet of snow most of the winter and temps hovering below zero most mornings when I got up to go to work - as a logger!!
- 15485 A couple of questions for the Florence CDAC that I would like to have addressed at the next meeting: 1) If the objective for the county is to maintain the current population, why have members of the committee voted for an antlerless quota that the biologist thinks will increase the population by 8%? 2) During the last meeting, the transportation representative voted set a quota that would increase the deer herd. Last year, the highway shop cleared 118 dead deer off the roads in Florence Co. that were hit by cars. Could you provide information what is the acceptable number of car/deer collisions? 3) CDAC members votes should represent the interest they serve. If the transportation rep votes to increase the deer herd, there should be no funding to remove dead deer from the highways. If the Ag. rep votes to increase the herd, there should be no Ag. tags issued and crop damage payments should be stopped.
- 15486 We had several down years of seeing very little deer numbers. My family has taken family rides on evenings to see how many deer we can count, and it's been horrible the last few years. The numbers simply need to increase and killing antlerless deer isn't the answer yet. Why not continue to grow the numbers and then when they are finally back up to where they need to be, allow antlerless tags at that time. Killing the deer who are providing next year's fawns doesn't seem realistic when you are trying to boost numbers. My grandfather is aging and not able to hunt as often, so it's depressing for him to not see any deer in his last few years hunting. I can handle the down years because I am hopeful the numbers increase again but he doesn't have that luxury of waiting things out. Please consider reducing the number of antlerless tags so we continue to see the deer numbers increase.
- 15487 The recommended antlerless quota is creeping back into the numbers of how we got to this point in the first place. We cannot continue to take out thousands of deer every year if we expect the herd to remain at reasonable levels. I can't tell you how many wolf and coyote kills I see out in the woods of Florence County. I spent countless hours bowhunting and gun hunting and saw very few deer. Please stop increasing antlerless quotas. Last year's 1000 for both public and private seemed to be at reasonable levels. Can't we give those quotas one more year before we jack up the numbers? It just doesn't seem reasonable by having a 60% jump in public and a 200% jump in private antlerless tags available compared to last year. This winter is now stretching well into April, which dramatically raises the mortality rate of deer. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.



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- 15488 Although we saw an increase in deer numbers this past season we are still not at the number of deer we saw years ago. Our buck population is just starting to come back. We saw a lot of spikes and forks this past season but very few 2-3 year old bucks. The number of doe permits proposed for this fall is 4500 which is out of line with the deer heard. Last year we had 2000 permits which would be more in line with the heard size. We need to stop allowing the youth to shoot does year after year. One doe for their first kill and no more! Your deer estimate of this area is not accurate and you need to update the way you calculate the size of the deer heard. You want our input so maybe its time to listen to the hunters that live here. Its also time you crack down on the deer farms with CWD! Farms need to be shut down if they have any positive deer with CWD at their own expense!
- 15489 We have hunted Florence County for the past 49 years. We have 8-10 guys in our hunting party each year. 2017 was our worst year ever. Zero deer harvested and hardly any sightings of deer on public or private land. We hunt hard and we know how to hunt. Scent elimination and use of tree stands and ground blinds with zero deer harvested. We need to have zero or very limited antlerless tags for Florence County. The predation of wolves is terrible where we hunt. We get off the roads and hike in a great distance. We saw more wolf sign than deer sign in 2017. Please be advised that many hunters will be giving up on Florence County unless the antlerless tags are reduced greatly. Thanks.
- 15490 It's totally insane to have ANY antlerless season on PUBLIC LAND IN FLORENCE COUNTY---who ever voted for this is totally nuts and uninformed !!!!! As noted I have hunted for 40 years on public land in Florence county and have owned property and a cabin there for 30 of those years-----this past fall 2017 hardly say a deer!!!!!! rifle, bow and mussel loader season!!!! 1600 antlerless permits this season is totally insane----UNLESS THOSE THAT VOTED FOR THIS ARE TOTALLY IGNORANT AND BRAIN DEAD!!!!-----Selling cabin are going somewhere where there are still deer---GOOD BYE FLORENCE COUNTY TAKING MY MONEY ELSE WHERE!!!!!!!!!!!! VERY VERY SINCERELY THOMAS A MARACH
- 15491 It doesn't make sense to me that with a goal of MAINTAIN the we would increase the antlerless permits to more than twice the 2017 levels. Isn't it likely that increasing the permits will REDUCE the herd? I have heard discussion of splitting this management unit using hwy 101 as the dividing line. This makes sense to me. It seems to me that there are far fewer deer west of 101 than east of 101 and yet the antlerless permits apply across the county. I think there is a perception that the forestry interests exert undue influence on the deer management decisions in this unit. I urge the CDAC to be sure to give the interests of hunters fair consideration.
- 15492 I have gun hunted in Florence County for 23 years and the deer population was coming back when we had bucks only for three years and my group that I hunt with were seeing more deer. The last two years the deer sign has been less and less. I feel that yes there should be some anterless tags available but make the quota a lot less. 500 for public and private. The deer have had some mild winters, but know one knows what the future winters will be like. If the deer population keeps decreasing you will loose more hunters and hurt the economy more in Floence. Please keep the deer population up in Florence and please listen to the hunters.
- 15493 Keep the antlerss tags at 1000 for public and private. To many yearling bucks got harvested last year and eventually will hurt the buck population. Yes the 2016 and 2017 winter was a mild one for the deer, but the 2018 winter especially the last month has not been good which will cause the doe to either have one fawn or none and we can't predict what future winters will look like for the deer. If you want anterless deer shot bring back the choice tag because not everyone see a buck. Please listen to the hunters and please have 2019 meeting on a weekend so more hunters can attend. Please keep the deer population up in Florence County.
- 15494 My biggest beef with the CDAC is the lack of listening to the Biologist recommendation. The biologist is using a scientific model, not perfect. But better than a survey of bar patrons and making up number to suit your specific agenda. I can't for the life of me figure out why Florence is a maintain county, but it was voted to increase the herd by 10%. It is NOT WRONG TO SHOOT antler-less deer. In 2017 the highway commissioners crew moved 118 deer off of US2, WI 70, Wi 101. The goal for the county is zero car deer crashes. Why is the highway representative voting to increase the herd if the goal is zero?



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- 15495 I found the increase in antlerless permits to be very disappointing. As our hunting group hunts entirely on public land and saw a few more deer than the previous two years I can't believe it calls for the large increase in your preliminary recommendation. I have to say that this past season was better than previous ones as I saw a doe and fawn in five days in the woods. The previous two seasons I saw no deer while spending a total of ten days in the woods. I have to believe a more moderate number would maintain the herd. I feel that your recommendation will actually reduce the herd especially on public land!
- 15496 The west side of Florence county is mainly all forest land, while the east end of the county is agricultural. I hunt all over Florence county, and there is significantly less deer west of state highway 101. I enjoy hunting and sharing my passion for the outdoors with my two sons. I find it very difficult to get a youth involved in the outdoors, when you put countless hours into scouting and preparation, with no results. Sitting in a blind with an 12 yo from dawn to dusk in the West half of the county, and seeing 2 different deer over the course of the day, makes it very difficult to keep the youths interest.
- 15497 These questions were hard to answer because Eastern Florence County has a higher deer density and too many antlerless deer for the habitat to support them. Western Florence County has a much lower deer density and antlerless deer should be protected. This issue was discussed and apparently ignored even though the majority of Florence County hunters agree there should be two units within Florence County. It seems the public comment is to make the public feel good about being able to give their opinion but the government will do what they want in the end by ignoring the majority...
- 15498 There needs to be a balance made for the predator population at hand. I've hunted this unit for 26 years and the bear, wolf and coyote population is getting higher and higher. This is contributing to the number of does I see without fawns. We don't need deer populations as high as the early 90's...that was out of hand and bad for the health of the herd and habitat. I set trail cameras from late summer through gun season and the balance of bucks to does is way off. 3 or 4 bucks to 1 doe isn't a healthy balance. What's happening to all the does ?
- 15499 The controversy over the cross bow season by the WBA is an effort to eliminate others from the woods in effect saving the deer for themselves. This is a selfish and greedy mission to eliminate any competition from what they consider their right to a natural resource. The mis-stating of facts and out right lies about cross bow effectiveness is a desperate attempt to reduce hunters in the woods at the nicest time of year. If the season for Cross bows is changed the same should be done for those using compound bows as the logic/argument is the same
- 15500 The biggest reason we are seeing a decrease in the number of hunters especially in our area is that guys would go thru the whole season and see 0-2 deer the whole season and they got tired of it and quit. Over the last 3 yrs before last year when there were no antlerless tags this allowed the population to come back some. Now with your 2018 quotas we will see the population taking 2 steps back. Too Bad!!!! The other issue we as a state have to tackle is baiting. For the sake of our deer herd we need to outlaw baiting statewide. Please!
- 15501 With the wolf and bear populations in Florence county and the lack of deer because of these predators it is difficult to keep our children and grandchildren interested in hunting. When they sit an entire season without seeing a buck and very few deer at all its hard to imagine you would consider raising the doe quota. P.S. My brother had 11 points (which took 11 years!) for his bear tag before getting one last fall. He is 74 years old. What are the odds he will be able to still hunt when he gets his next tag?
- 15502 Ban baiting, Point restrictions, more bear permits with the winter being long and snowy you should not have any tags this year and maybe for the next 2 years. I can remember when unit 50 didn't have any and unit 40 had permits! Why don't you look at going back to the party tag system?! Charge so much per person (3) for 1 doe tag you get your money and a doe shot, I don't know what the number of people to apply for 1 doe tag would be but I think it might work. The state had it in the past!



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- 15503 I think we should have a quota of around 500 antlerless deer harvested. The way this winter is hanging around maybe zero. Hopefully the CDAC committee can revisit this once spring is here to evaluate the winter kill. I think Florence county needs to slowly increase antlerless tags so we can build a strong herd and not over harvest and couple it with a severe winter and set us back to buck only hunting again. Thank you for your time listening and being on the CDAC committee.
- 15504 florence needs to be managed into 2 units, I have hunted public lands east and west of hwy 70 majority time spent west of 70 in national forest. the majority of deer i have seen was east of 70. the deer population is way down in the national forest I feel is due to the large amount of Bear And wolfs. more bear tags in the B section also need to cut down on the bear. Area sections they are 2 large to manage population of the bear. needed to be divided up into smaller units
- 15505 Our group has been hunting Florence County for the past 45 years. We have been seeing decreasing deer sightings the past five years. Where we hunt we see more wolf sign than deer sign and we see deer carcasses that have been tore apart by wolves. We need to eliminate the wolves or else the northern deer herd will be eliminated. Our groups vote would be to have "0" antlerless kill in Florence County so that the herd numbers can be restored. Please make wise decisions.
- 15506 Deer numbers are still at historically low levels based on my experiences through the 40 plus years of hunting the same area in Florence County....I saw a total of two deer while hunting 4 full days and half of another...this is actually an improvement from the previous two years of seeing only 1 deer....numbers are improving but not even near what a hunter needs...especially hard on new hunters that sit and see nothing...need to see deer every day
- 15507 After 35 years of hunting public land off the Goodman grade which was excellent hunting in the 80's and 90's, I saw 8 does total in the last 10 opening weekends. Three of those years I saw nothing which hasn't happened since the 70's. I stay on my stand from opening to closing all weekend and have never seen hunting this poor. The only thing that changed is there are now wolfs.I now hunt private land where you will see deer.
- 15508 Public/private land bonus tags are stupid, too many hunters don't care what tag they have ie if a public tag is not available they just get a private tag and use it where ever they happen to be. Not enough law enforcement in this zone and no backtag makes identifying violators impossible. So just because you make 1600 public tags available do you really think the other 3000 will stay on private land??? Good luck with that.
- 15509 We need to get some way to manage the wolf population. This population continues to grow and that is why I feel the hunter harvest proposed it too high. If we don't leave some for these predators we will significantly reduce the overall deer population. Let's get off our butts and make something happen so we can manager these apex predators. I believe man is the apex predator and it does not feel like that these days.
- 15510 I would like to certain that there are sufficient #s of permits to get folks to go hunting up north. It is a long trip, and the hunter would like to know they have deer options rather than buck only. Those folks that live up there need the business. I know it is a balancing act. I have a lot of respect for the job the DNR does in managing the herd. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion!
- 15511 I would support the opportunity to harvest a doe with the bow in this northern area. We are unable to hunt on land in other areas, so we have hunted on public land for 35 years. We bow hunt this area as well. However, one is forced to hunt elsewhere if harvesting a doe with the bow is not an option. This has an economic impact on Long Lake, WI where we stay. Thank you for the consideration!
- 15512 The presence of wolves and continuous over harvesting via antlerless tags has decimated the deer population in the last few years. Our hunting party spends more than 40 hours each hunting during the gun deer season and keeps seeing fewer deer and more wolf tracks. It doesn't make any sense that to maintain the population the recommendation is to drastically increase the antlerless tags.



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- 15513 I would like to see no doe tags this year unless you're a junior hunter. This winter has been very long and with the deep snow the deer mortality is going to be high. I feel the best solution for this county would be going back to the hunters choice permit, where a group of four people could send in for one hunter choice permit instead of giving out bonus antlerless tags.
- 15514 There seems to be quite a few deer in yards due to feeding. Ban feeding and it will force the deer back to the woods. The numbers aren't what they used to be but it would definitely help if they were in the woods. I think the buck to doe ratio is horrible and if we can eliminate more of them to bring the ratio closer I would definitely support a doe only season.
- 15515 We generally will have around 8 different bucks that will frequently be on our cameras, and it seems like the same half dozen does with their fawns. We hunt every weekend of bow and gun season and between 3 of us we typically only see a couple deer per weekend. The winter, wolves, other predators, and farmers take care of plenty of deer and fawns every year.
- 15516 It is a narrow line being walked between too many permits and too few. Recently we have had 7 hunters in camp with no deer taken during gun season (2016). Last year was much better with 4 deer taken. No deer taken leads to hunters losing interest. Hunter interest is vital to the continuation of a viable hunting environment/economy.
- 15517 The predator population is too high. Need to issue more bear tags. There's more bears than they think. The wolf's have a high pressure on the herd. The pressure they put on the deer herd is unmeasurable. Even if they don't kill the deer they run them around all winter making them weak then the long winter gets them in the end.
- 15518 After two years of bucks only hunting, this past season I started to feel like I was finally seeing more day time deer. Then bang, let's shoot more deer off. By the end of the regular gun season and going into the muzzle season no more deer seen. Not the Florence hunting I use to love and have. Let's leave the does alone. Thank you.
- 15519 I would like to see 2200 private land and 1400 public land for a total of 3600 antlerless permits to yield around 1260 antlerless deer. If I read the numbers correctly, a total of 1125 antlerless deer were harvested in 2017. An increase of an additional 135 antlerless kills should be sufficient to "maintain" the herd.
- 15520 The number of antlerless permits is too high, I would support a season that has 600 permits available for private land, 200 permits available in western part of the county forest public land and 600 permits available in the eastern part of the county public land. This is too big of an increase from last year levels.
- 15521 Just as the deer population is starting to recover in our area, the DNR starts loading up on doe tags. Keep increasing doe tags and don't manage the wolf population and other predators then there won't be any deer left. No skin off of my nose, I won't miss all the people from down below in my town.
- 15522 With the winter we had we'll see less deer!!! I thought maintain means not more tags but the same as before!! You people talk about the traditions of the hunt what a "Joke" No deer registration call in registration give me a break!! Talk about deer poachers heaven you people just gave it to them.
- 15523 Thanks for your time and work. I have a cabin with land in Aurora that we hunt on and bow hunt throughout the county on public. The private land we see way too many does and fawns. I would rather see less deer while hunting and a more healthy buck to doe ratio or healthy herd.
- 15524 I support the increase in doe tags as I have seen a lot of deer throughout the winter and early spring. I would also support a change for Florence county to have 2 units like we used to have because of the 2 completely different land types. Thanks for your efforts and time.
- 15525 This county should go back to buck only tags. The herd was just starting to show signs of growth and then there was antlerless tags. The progress we made is now lost. Having even more antlerless tags would be a huge mistake and very detrimental to the deer herd.



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- 15526 Deer are much more abundant in the Eastern half of the county where most of the land is privately held. "Advisors" in Madison apparently don't understand this. Treating the county as a single unit reveals how little those in Madison actually know about the area.
- 15527 Age class is off balance ,too many predators, go to a point system and get rid of baiting. The herd was just coming back then you people want to increase the doe tags with the winter we are going through! Wake up people!!!
- 15528 Get rid of baiting/feeding! If you need a pile of corn to hunt deer, you aren't a very good hunter. Also, the potential issues associated with CWD far outweigh any advantages a bait pile gives to a slob hunter!!!!
- 15529 I experienced encounters with a wolf twice last hunting season, and have talked to the local residents who have had multiple sightings of cougars in the area, this concerns me with regards to night tracking.
- 15530 Continue to use controlled burns on the Barrens. You seem to schedule those when the fawns, turkey chicks and spruce grouse chicks are unable to escape. That will keep the population down.
- 15531 Quotas look very good for private land. We NEED to be able to control the population on our land. In the last three years we did not have the tags to control the population on our farm.
- 15532 Im in favor of a baiting ban.I would rather hunt in Montana because of the quality of the hunt.The use of cameras and baiting have ruined the hunting experience.
- 15533 I believe deer populations are still way to low in this area i also believe predators like bears and wolves are way to high.
- 15534 i witnessed a lot of antlerless deer while hunting and very few antlered. possibly an earn a buck should be considered
- 15535 Get rid of the private and public land antlerless tag. Just go back to the standard antlerless
- 15536 Adults should not be shooting a youth deer should suspend the youth hunt for a couple years
- 15537 In Florence County, the deer hunting season should be closed for at least 2 to 3 years.
- 15538 The CDAC permit recommendation is totally irresponsible.
- 15539 Unit should be divided into West/East sections.
- 18027



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Fond du Lac, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

93 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 58
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
I hunt in this unit: 77
General interest in this unit: 14

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 73
Bow: 46
Crossbow: 30
Muzzleloader: 35

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.71
Maximum: 57

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 34
Mostly Private Land: 17
Public and Private Land About Equally: 10
Mostly Public Land: 6
Exclusively Public Land: 9
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 13
Not too crowded: 15
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 18
Fewer: 29
Same: 29
More: 12
Many More: 4
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	5	33	31	23	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	3	24	28	34	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	5	27	23	31	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	9	67	16	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	29	59	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	39	49	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	8	81	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.39
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.69
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.51
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.69
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.09
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.38
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.36
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.33
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.71
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.36



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Fond du Lac, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15540 I'm to the point where I'm ready to quit hunting in Wisconsin with all the unbelievably stupid changes that have been made it's absolutely ridiculous. I hunt several other states An Wisconsin's management plan is just a joke. There's no deer on the public land the way it is an whatever few are there they hardly stand a chance with all the pressure a guy doesn't even feel safe anymore. The crossbow season is a JOKE combine the crossbow an gun tag you either shoot a buck with the crossbow or the gun since there nothing but a string rifle the way it is. The only thing this state management plan consist of is killing all the deer. Now they want to extend your the archery crossbow season unreal never heard a such a stupid idea. They wonder why hunter are on a decline use your heads An do something good for a deer herd instead of creating a blood bath for the herd. There's a problem when a guy can literally buy/shoot more deer and than a guy can geese or other small game. Group hunting get rid of it. I can't go catch a fish for my buddy next to me but I can go shoot a deer for him. Makes sense NOT!!!! This state is screwd. How about a pt to restriction to help our herd to actually manage it not just slaughter it. Wisconsin DNR management plan should just be called Wisconsin slaughter Plan. Have a little brother sister an relation an just about to ready to just say forget Wisconsin an go to a state that actually knows how to manage an improve there deer Herd not abuse it like where doing now.

15541 I have a concern... lets say I am neighbor C (farmer) and I have a neighbor A and B.(both own farm land but don't farm) Neighbor A rents his family farm land, and he gets too many ag tags to the point there are not many deer for deer hunting(it's sad) . He is a known pocher for years (he is older now slowing up) Neighbor B bought bunch of land here, he is a trophy hunter and hates neighbor A. Most of his land is in wet lands and unfarmable but he still is able to put it in farm land preservation. My concern. ..the land has not been farmed in 30 years and is unfarmable (swam, willow trees, ,cattails dogwood, buchthorn) how is he able to put it in farmland preservation when it is not farm able? Next he put a 8-10 foot high fence (on one side, DNR calles it the Jurassic Park fence) to keep deer off neighbors and my property, yet he still gets farm tax breaks and it destroyed my hunting here. How can this be so unfair yet OK to do, I am almost ready to stop hunting deer on my farm. Have not got one here since the fence went up, its sad

15542 I'm a very active deer hunter and strive to harvest old does, old bucks & any wounded deer. With that being said, I feel many trophy hunters do not look at the big picture for mother nature. My thoughts are deer populations are at a good level. To many deer is no good either. Overbrowsing, unhappy farmers, car accidents etc. Deer hunting has gotten so popular that its starting to over power common sense of whats practical. I agree with extra bonus tags available this year. For people who understand how to manage a deer herd and have the land available often 2 antlerless tags is not enough. Bonus tags should be available. We had several mild winters to support the extra harvest of does as well. I'm not saying we need to lower the population but we don't need to grow it either. One thing I am in favor of is trying to level the buck to doe ratio in FDL private lands. I would support a earn a buck or point restriction for this zone if you feel its for the better of the herd & hunters.



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- 15543 Noted in you meeting minutes was that there was a discussion about lack of public input. I believe the lack if input is due to the fact that hunters believe that they aren't heard when they do provide feedback. I for instance, along with others, have noted our displeasure with the amount of public land doe tags. The deer herd on public land is suffering in fond du lac county. Hunters are already given 1 tag if they so choose for public land, why would we give out an additional 1500, especially if we are truly going to MAINTAIN the herd. My assumption for the extra 1500 tags is because private land owners in the area showed their displeasure for not having extra tags to go out and drive public land for does all day during the gun season and then be able to go back to their private land and wait for a nice buck in the evenings. Public land in fond du lac county will never be the same until they eliminate the extra bonus tags.
- 15544 I have been trying to grow trees the last 5 years and have had very little success as the trees are severely browsed by deer. My first planting was 9000 trees. Two years later I replanted 2000 of those trees. At the rate the deer eat the new growth the trees will be less then 10 feet tall in 10 years. I have tubed the trees, but the deer just pull them down. I own 100 acres and have 7 individuals that bow and gun hunt the property. They harvested 3 bucks and 8 does. I have cameras on the property and on any given evening 15 to 30 deer are eating browsing among the trees. I have no new trees growing in the forest to speak of. Way to many deer in this area and would like to see more doe tags. We need to take a stand or new growth for trees will not happen and the forest will turn to grass,brush and dead trees.
- 15545 The deer herd in this unit and the hole state is way down we need to get more deer back like it was in the past I use to see few deer a night but now I'm lucky to see one week. The killing deer because of insurance incentives need to stop. And we need to think of a point restrictions let's say can't shoot a buck unless it has three points on one side unless u are a new Hunter until there 18 I think this will help our deer herd because it will be healthier and our torism will go up because there will be a better chance of shooting a big buck. Some other states are doing this and everyone that I talk to about it likes it. So please take this and think what your doing to our deer herd and shoot all the wolf's the biggest mistake that Wisconsin ever did. Our deer herd to a big hit from it. Thanks
- 15546 1500 bonus anlerless tags for public land is ridiculous. I hunted all 9 days of the season. Sitting and driving with friends. I seen 1 doe. And did not harvest a deer. There are too many hunters. They mess up the whole area and the deer run on to the adjacent private lands or deep into the marshes and become nocturnal instantly. Hunting deer on public land during the 9 day gun season is not a quality experience. That is why hunters become frustrated and quit. I'm even considering no longer participating in the gun hunt. With the legalization of crossbows, the archery hunt is becoming almost as bad. Public land tags need to be drastically reduced. Even buck only for a few years would be a consideration.
- 15547 The population in the area I hunt showed improvement in the 2017 season, after a couple years of concern for lowering numbers. Some of the recommendations of the DNR and CDAC would be more appropriate for the 2019 season, if 2018 is consistent with 2017. Long term goals and achievements regarding deer population in the area I hunt, Fond du Lac county Central Farmland, including the preferences of the locals in the area are consistent with increasing the size of the population. I think the number of bonus tags being offered is too many, that most of the recommendations would be better considered for the 2019 season.... after looking at data from the 2018 season.
- 15548 We have a nice healthy herd that is being controlled but would like to see a more mature deer herd. There is lots of landowners that leave crops for the deer all winter. We need to control all predators and make sure there is no new predators being introduced into the area. We do not need a Holiday hunt in Fond Du Lac county. If someone can not kill an anterless deer during a 9 day gun hunt, Muzzleloader season and the 4 day doe hunt they do not need another season or Holiday hunt. The Holiday day hunt will take away from late season bow hunter and i do not believe we need to extend our bow season.



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- 15549 been hunting this area for years and every year keep seeing less and less deer let alone being able to shoot one i think they should go back to the every other year you get a tag to shoot does dont give everyone a tag every year.. there isnt any deer on public lands enough for that the deer go to the private lands and than they complain and have the problems mostly when it was every other year you would see groups of deer on public lands now its a thrill to see one let alone to get a chance at shooting one
- 15550 Reduce the number of antlerless tags and promote better "sportsmanship." Last deer season my family witnessed a group of 11 people with AR15's walk through two neighboring properties and shoot every deer that came out of there. It was unsafe and in my opinion unethical. I have nothing against antlerless tags or harvesting antlerless deer in moderation, but things like this are very sad to witness. Bring back the party permit!
- 15551 I was unable to hunt in 2017 due to health. I hunt deer for the purpose of eating venison. I do not believe in trophy hunting and punishing the average hunter because some few hunters want only trophy buck shot. If it is so important for them to shoot a trophy buck then go to the game farms that have hunting for the trophy bucks. For me any deer I shoot is a trophy, whether buck or doe.
- 15552 To many large sections of private farm lands only harvest a few mature bucks. There are then large populations of does on these lands and i dont believe thats healthy for our deer herds. I dont have a solution as these are private properties. Saving all these deer in overpopulated pockets for a few big bucks is unfortunate
- 15553 I would like to see a lot more CWD registration stations in the Fond Du Lac County for the 2018 season. This is because of how quick one needs to act when getting their harvest tested for CWD and this made it very inconvenient to do so with the lack of places to take a deer to be tested.
- 15554 I feel there's a health population of deer in our area. We are also surrounded by 700 acres of land that is not hunted or pushed. Which is a bigger problem because with the added pressure the deer know these spots and become nocturnal. Making it harder to harvest an animal.
- 15555 concern about increase in proposed bonus tags very extreme without the deer herd increasing??. the quality of buck in this unit has diminished since 2014, the number of 2.5 yr class bucks has decrease per sightings, this is over food plot observations.
- 15556 Ban deer baiting forever. Implement earn a buck again so QDM hunters harvest more does instead of hoarding does only to attract large bucks. Doe hoarding leads to high concentration of deer too close to roads/vehicles and promotes heavier crop damage.
- 15557 Deer counts and siting in my area have gone down each year for the past 5 or more for sure, would like to see the antlerless harvest cut way back for a year or two and see what happens. I don't believe the deer counts conducted are accurate.
- 15558 Extending the archery season to the end of January 2019 would affect the snowmobile trails in that private landowners often close their land, which often have trails crossing them, due to leases, etc. from the hunting season.
- 15559 Landowners should be allowed 2 free antler less tags per license..... non landowners allowed 1 antlerless tag..... 2 years of a doe only season would get the buck to doe ratio where it needs to be
- 15560 I am president of a local snowmobile club. I believe i can speak for our board and membership that we are opposed to a holiday hunt and its impact on an already limited regional snowmobile season.
- 15561 Enough with the anterless bonus tags. Deer have declined since earn a buck! Sad! Keep it at 1 buck and 1 doe tag per liscense! Quality has improved of bucks but numbers aint there anymore.
- 15562 We have so much public land ther should be no difference in hunting in public land or private u want the deer count down we should not have to choose which to hunt on



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- 15563 There are too many hunters on certain DNR or public lands. Is there a way to limit hunting pressure on these lands ? By permit or user fee ?
- 15564 There are deer deserts in FDL County and spots that are over populated, management should be handled separately throughout the county.
- 15565 Control antlerless tags to very minimum needed always. No antlerless or special seasons , extended seasons needed or wanted.
- 15566 Please do not shorten the crossbow hunting season. Please keep it the same as regular bow season.
- 15567 Have a special muzzleloader season before the general gun season.
- 15568 Why not only one buck per hunter per year or 6 point or better?
- 15569 I support no holiday hunt and don't extend the bow season
- 18028



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Forest, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

128 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 39
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
I hunt in this unit: 119
General interest in this unit: 23

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 115
Bow: 75
Crossbow: 39
Muzzleloader: 43

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 27.7
Maximum: 61

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 16
Mostly Private Land: 13
Public and Private Land About Equally: 23
Mostly Public Land: 30
Exclusively Public Land: 35
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 14
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 21
Somewhat crowded: 27
Very crowded: 36
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 16
Fewer: 38
Same: 44
More: 22
Many More: 7
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	1	2	23	21	79	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	4	20	24	74	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	2	21	29	74	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	56	65	6

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.25
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.66
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.10
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.60
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.13
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.25
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.89
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.16
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.80
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.62
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.51



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Comments for Forest, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15570 1. Relying on hunter honesty when registering deer, there is no check and balance, NO DNR person or registration station sees the deer any more. There are NOT that many breeding bucks in Forest County. They don't just magically appear in hunting season or the rut. 2. What I am seeing, are last years fawns in poor condition because they had no motherly guidance to teach them winter survival techniques. You see them in yards, on the sides of the road, eating from hay piles and silage bags because this is where the food is, they have not learned to go to yard up as in the past. 3. I have heard people say they registered the same deer several times to make it look like there are more deer so more antlerless tags are issued. 4. This HAS been a severe winter. January and Feb had nearly every night below 0. We had rain which crusted the snow making deer movement difficult for them and they tend to stick to established trails, making deer extremely vulnerable to predator attack. It is now April and we have had over 18 inches of new snow in the past 2 weeks, winter continues...5. My family farms, and this is where the deer are located, in the cultivated, crop fields, so you and local people see deer in the fields and wrongly think there are a lot of deer. Get out in the woods!!! A mile from our farm on Forest Service or Heartwood land, deer are rarely seen. I spend free time riding horse in the various woods surrounding our farm, so I am in the woods. What I do see are young hemlock trees, less than 4 feet tall and young cedar. IF there were over browsing or too many deer, these little trees would be eaten to the ground. These young trees are a new phenomenon in our area. 6. When we see 20 or 30 deer in the fields in the evening, that seems like a lot but when you see 20 or 30 deer the next day, they are the SAME deer, not different, so there are NOT 40 or 60 deer. When you observe deer on a daily basis, you get to know them. They have different personalities, colors, sizes etc. 7. I enjoy deer hunting. Every year, we have to patrol our private land to keep people from trespassing, because as stated above, farm fields have a food source so we get surrounded by hunters and if we are not watching, we have trespassers. That is NOT fun to deal with. We work, both out and farming, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. Any deer we kill, we utilize, either ourselves or give them to someone in need. My family wants to see the deer herd managed so the next generations will also have the same opportunity to hunt and harvest a deer. There is something humbling about making a good shot and killing a deer. Remember this, bucks don't have fawns. If you allow extreme amounts of antlerless tags without knowing the true numbers of deer, there will be no deer. An antlerless female that lives to be 6 years old will probably have 11 or 12 fawns in her lifetime. Without her, that number is 0. 8. There are too many wolves. Deer are extremely adaptable and have moved in close to buildings, homes, people. This is for protection. I have seen bear devour tiny fawns. And as mentioned above, people are registering the same deer over and over because they can, so it looks like there is overabundance. All of these predators, how do the deer even stand a chance?? You, DNR, are supposed to protect and manage



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15571 Hi there. I'm a concerned citizen hunter from forest county. I own some land next to public. this past year was the first decent year with a few small bucks. It was nice to see a few deer. I know the reason was not letting any antlerless deer be harvested the year before, but this past year with antlerless permits and the permits from heartwood and the youth being allowed once again to harvest antlerless deer all the good from 2016 was wiped out. I've seen less deer this winter then the past two. we harvested a timber sale in central forest in late winter when deer are at their poorest. This was a hardwood timber sale there should have been many deer in the area, there was four! oh ya I also farm if your worried about ag damage in forest county don't. One bear does more damage then 100 deer and you can use that number too many bears but that's another story. The thing is your numbers are wrong. We were not allowed to harvest antlerless deer in 2016 so yes the numbers should be up in 2017 from the dismal 2015 season. Forest county needs to be micro managed. With large tracks of public land, predators, over hunting by means of too many seasons the heard has been desimated. We need zones that are inforced northern forest where the deer should be, is a joke. If you see a deer in forest there is a house near by! We need to work together and by that I mean letting the antlerless deer survive. just a few suggestions. Everyone knows that 40% of dnr budget comes from tags and permits for all types of fishing and hunting. For the money brought in from the deer seasons the dnr should do more then just harvest the deer. it is our herd that we are paying you to take care of it, and your doing an embarrassing job. You say you want to increase deer herd but you want to shoot 150% more antlerless deer then last year. let that sink in. heres my idea one buck gun or bow (you get one) these deer should have at least three points on one side. Lets make forest count an experiment when the numbers are up. allow managed antlerless permits. its worked in other states Montana, Iowa, Pennsylvania. Lets stop being followers and be leaders.

15572 In living in this zone my entire life, I have steadily watched the deer population decrease. All that has happened has been an increased number of deer tags (antlerless) and a steady increase in the number of predators. Seems that all of the efforts are to keep minimal deer around but to protect the predator. When I go hunting in and area I know and grew up in, and only SEE, not harvest, SEE one or two deer all season that is pathetic. Hearing a proposal to kill more antlerless deer does not help this situation. If we keep killing off the antlerless deer and hunters do not get see hardly any deer, how are we supposed to get the youth involved in hunting and the outdoors? That is the future. It is difficult to comment on this situation because it seems like no matter what is said by the people that live and hunt in this area seems to fall of deaf ears. The DNR just does whatever they feel is right without taking anyone's opinion into consideration. We constantly see things that this and the DNR says they want to better manage the deer. Well since the increase of predators and antlerless tags, the number of hunters has decreased greatly. There is a direct correlation in the amount of antlerless tags being given out and the lack of deer in the woods. If they want to "manage" the deer, than why not take some input and manage them. All that I see is more tags=more money for the DNR, and has nothing to do with properly managing the lack of a deer herd in the Northwoods of Wisconsin.

15573 Something needs to be done about the ever increasing wolf population up there . And the bear population needs to be addressed up there also . The wolf hunt needs to be brought back with a much higher quota on them and the bear permits need to increase also ! The deer hunting was much more enjoyable in the 1990's and into the early 2000's . Since then , barely any shooting is heard on opening weekend . We don not see any where near the numbers of deer that we used to see . It is getting very hard to sit out on the stand from opening to closing time to only see less than a handful of deer ! My cabin is in the northern part of unit 39 a few miles south of hwy . 70 and a few miles east of hwy . 55 . Every camp up there is getting disgusted with the low numbers . Two of my children won't hunt with me any more because we just don't see deer any more ! The worst decision ever made in that unit was when the dnr issued 6000 I think it was one year in the late 1990's or eraly 2000's , cant recall what year . That was so unreal and ridiculous ! We barely even see any deer when we drive around at night . For the future of Deer Hunting , please reduce or eliminate the permits for a few more years . Let's get the herd back to where it was 20 years ago ! Thank you , A very concerned Deer Hunter .



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- 15574 I was at the cdac meeting again this year. I try to make every one that I can. The amount of antlerless tags that is proposed to be given out for 2018 is absurd! Not coming only from me, it was pretty much the same opinion by everyone attending! We vote to increase the deer population, yet we're going to give out 2100 more antlerless tags than last year. Certainly some areas have many more deer than others. But I feel that some areas of public are being way overhunted. I watched 12 antlerless deer get taken off of a 500 acre parcel of public. Note there are a few other ways to access that land, and I'm sure there were more than I know about also. Giving out this amount of tags is really going to hurt some areas, where there are some deer, but far to many hunters. I hunt this same area often the deer population varies from year to year, but as soon as the antlerless tags start to be given out the population tanks. Until it comes to, we don't give out any doe tags for 3-5 years again, because the population is way down. Hmm wonder why.....Which seems to be a pretty common cycle in forest county! Thanks for your time!
- 15575 Last year was a mistake to bring back antlerless tags! We were just starting to see a few flashes of brown and then bang! Here comes the tags! The 2017 winter started out ok with average amounts of snow but have since been dumped on with large amounts of ice crusted snow. We all know what that does to the population. They are coming into this time of year weak and hungry. Noes not the time for bad weather as if Jack Frost doesn't get those deer the predators sure will! As far as private land tags go....the landowners go and shoot the antlerless on the public to "save" their antlerless deer. There is not enough game management crews in this area to keep most of the private landowners honest. So with historical low numbers everyone who pays taxes thinks that they are owed something and therefore choose to use their tags in ways not designed. This herd is no way ready for nearly 2000 antlerless to be removed from an already Dead Sea! Don't make this about revenue. Make this about the future!
- 15576 The deer are over stressed. They deal with out of control predators, and you don't need long dog training seasons, all summer either,,,,,,,,, You want to increase the herd, well your quotas on antlerless tags are too high..... I like call in registration, not tagging a deer is a joke, and the amount of violations are high, and there is no support for our game wardens, which they need more of in the field, during the deer and bear season in general. I have no affiliation with the wardens, I am just a sportsman, who has always believed, they do an important job, and we have too few. I think the baiting is a joke, but it is out of control, just like our wolves..... It is nice to see more logging operations on going, in the National Forest..... I appreciated the efforts of the CDAC, and I hope as a whole, we succeed for our future generations to have a quality hunt. We all know, how it could be, because we have seen it, the way it use to be.....
- 15577 No questions were asked of the number of deer. The deer population is still lower than it has been in years. There was a slight increase, but not to the point of killing does and fawns. Let the population come back before you loose the interest of the kids. I have 3 kids that live in Forest County, with 9 grandchildren and one great grandchild. I want them to have the opportunity to see deer, so they can get into hunting as I did as a child. We finally got a few deer back and now you want 1000 deer permits. I don't get it!!!! Where do you get your numbers. I know it's not from the bear hunters, or the local loggers, because they know the situation. They are the ones who are in the woods on a daily basis and will and can tell you about Forest County's deer herd. Please wake up to the problem, before we loose the kids. I know from my family you have already lost almost a generation.



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- 15578 in 2017 we had 14 hunters until wednesday of season , than went to 6 for the duration. Grand total of 7 deer were seen by all. two spikes harvested of the 9 and 1 doe reluctantly by a first year hunter. are young people have talked about quitting hunting because they see no deer , and i can only say its about seeing deer not killing them , that is what will get the next generation to continue to hunt. the thought of doe tags would make my grandpa roll over in his grave. as a little kid and now an adult , the message hasn't changed , the northern country cannot sustain a population with doe hunts/tags. predators manage the herd quite effectively , doe tags are the last thing we need. i will never be in favor of doe tags until the day i hunt one of my favorite ridges or swamp runways and actually see deer consistantly , after 42 years that still hasn't happened.
- 15579 I have hunted the same location (Nicolet N.F. just south of Butternut Lake) for 34 years and have never seen the deer population so low. I hunt most hours of all 9 days of the season. The deer sightings by our group have never been as few as they have been since 2000. I realize that a major factor is that the habitat in the Nicolet is too mature to support a herd as large as it was in the 1980s but seeing less than 10 deer (zero in several years) for the time I spend in the woods indicates there are also herd management and predator control problems. I also believe that the change from the old DMU system was a big mistake as is the current registration process. I intend to continue to hunt this area since I really enjoy big woods hunting on public land. I can only hope that things improve in my lifetime. Thanks for allowing me to voice my opinion.
- 15580 I own land in Forest county. I have watched the deer population continue to decline. I personally don't believe that the wolf population is completely to blame for this decline. Harsh winters are probably a bigger factor concerning deer survival. I think giving out antlerless permits at this point in time is a bad poor choice concerning proper deer herd management. Give the deer herd a couple more years to recover to the levels I remember not too many years ago. Let the kids shoot either or, it's hard enough to get them and keep interested with the deer herd being at the level that it is. I don't and won't shoot a deer at my cabin, just isn't enough deer to justify it. I will let my son harvest one, and pray to god he has a memorable experience that keeps him hooked for life. Your losing kids faster than your gaining them. Get your act together.
- 15581 In the northern part of our county the deer numbers are low due to the past-mature forest not being able to supply good forage. Logging would greatly help alleviate this fixable problem. In the southern portion of our county reports indicate better numbers but nothing to brag about. I believe the smaller private parcels offer the deer much more in the way of healthy forage and inviting cover that hold and nourish deer. Thanks for encouraging and assisting the landowners in their effort to plan and carry out management plans to prosper our game populations. I work to improve habitat for deer, turkey, and grouse. This doesn't happen on its own so what I really appreciate are laws and the enforcement of them which hold trespassers and poachers responsible for stealing from those who pay the taxes and put in the hard work. Thank you.
- 15582 You Want to INCREASE the population by tripling the number of Doe harvested? WHat kind of math do you people do? ALL you are interested in doing is revenue. A few years back I could buy a bow tag and harvest 2 deer if I was diligent. A gun buck or possible antlerless with additional fee made for a total cost of \$56 bucks..... NOW I have to buy a tag for each of the 6 counties I hunt because I do not know when how, or how many times I will hunt in these 6 counties or deer to be taken. You have forced me to buy a doe tag for all of the counties I may hunt to take ONE Doe. On top of that why is a crossbow permit more than a bow license??? The DNR needs to have the swamp drained, just like Washington. People are not happy with how this system is being run.
- 15583 The CDAC now has to take into account the long winter weather we are having. In my area we just received 18 inches of snow in the past week. This was on top of the 12 inches already in the woods. Deer are still going to die of stress for the next month and fawn production will be a lot less, probably half of what it would be if winter ended next week. I have a big concern about wolf populating the whole County. Ten years ago there were just a few wolf packs now there are wolf tracks all over the roads in eastern Forest County too. This needs to be addressed! The CDAC should not be pressured into raising the quota by the DNR bean counters. Last years quota was high enough and should be used again. NO increase in quotas!



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- 15584 The deer herd count is down in Forest county. A dead chicken lays no eggs! If antlerless tags are handed out in abundance, the count will go down even farther. After the 2017 season I heard a number of hunters saying "that's it, I'm done"! That's done buying a license, done contributing to the local economy, and done trying to get the folks that are in-charge to hear their voice. The deer population has been suffering in Forest county for much too long. Friends ask "where do you hunt"? When I tell them Forest county they respond with "Forest is a dead county"! So there. Now you know how a bunch of guys feel and what they believe. BUT, you'll hand out antlerless tags anyhow. Typical gov't employees.
- 15585 There are too many predators this combined with a bad winter is what is harming our deer herd. Weather cant be controlled but predators can. This year I saw lots of does and yearlings? maybe knob bucks? Why shoot them off so soon? Why increase antlerless quotas so soon? let the herd strengthen itself with some numbers. Let mother nature do her thing. Let things transgress naturally. Quit cutting all the old growth so fast also. Yes we need browse. But the Forest Service sees dollar signs and cuts down anything worth a damn. I notice too wheres all the bluejays, greyjays, and Sno shoe rabbits. Not enough deer to eat? Thank You...
- 15586 I would support an antler restriction. I saw over 20 deer everyday I hunted and never saw a buck. This included archery season, youth season, gun season and muzzleloader season. We had a group of 4 hunting and everyone saw 20+ deer a day and we only saw 1 buck. Durring the summer we had 3 bucks and upwards of 75 does and fawns that we saw every day. The buck to doe ratio is way out of wack. The only way to fix it is to shoot more does and protect the young bucks. I think we are going in the right direction by increasing the doe quota and comend the advisory committy for making that recomendation. Thanks
- 15587 Increasing the antlerless/bonus quota is a bad idea in this hunter's opinion.. This area is far from overpopulated with deer. I hunt from Saturday to Saturday (8 days), I'm in the woods each day, and do not hunt from a stand....I cover a lot of ground. I can count on one hand, how many deer I saw/heard. A very far cry from an amount that would ask for more, much less any, antlerless tags. Please do not increase the antlerless tag availability. Please keep logging. Please keep the bait ban on so that deer browse during the day to keep hunting alive. Thank you for the opportunity to fill this out.
- 15588 I have hunted in this unit my entire life, and to say we have a surplus of deer based on the numbers in previous years isn't logical. When we considered the deer population in the 70's 80's and 90's when seeing deer was NOT a challenge (20 -30 deer per season) versus now it is very difficult to see more than a half dozen throughout the season, too many deer just doesn't seem to fit. As far as over browsing, this is preposterous considering 30 years ago when we had plenty of deer and more harsh winters we have an abundance of 30-40 year old healthy trees in our northern hardwood stands -How come?
- 15589 We hunt where we do because of family tradition. We have two cottages in the Town of Freedom. We usually hunt Saturday through Monday AM. Our group of 6-8 hunters haven't harvested a buck in a number of years. Two years ago our neighbor, hunting on private land, saw five wolves chasing two dear during the day. Many of us have seen no deer at all the time period we were hunting. Ten years ago some of us would go back to hunt the following weekend. Now, it seems like a waste of time. The people who hunt on private land seem to do better than us who hunt the national forest.
- 15590 I DISAGREE WITH THIS WINTER MORTALITY BEING LOW. THIS HAS BEEN A LONG COLD WINTER WITH A LOT OF SNOW THE LAST MONTH OR SO. A THICK CRUST THROUGH MOST OF THE LAST HALF OF WINTER. TOOK MANY RIDES THROUGH THE NATIONAL FOREST THIS WINTER AND SEEN A LOT MORE WOLF TRACKS THEN DEER TRACKS. I ACTUALLY THOUGHT THE DEER POPULATION WAS COMING BACK THE LAST COUPLE YEARS BUT THIS PAST SEASON OUR GROUP SEEN FEWER DEER SO I DOUBT THE POPULATION IS HIGH ENOUGH IN THE NATIONAL FOREST TO RAISE THE ANTERLESS QUOTA.



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- 15591 In the unit that used to be 39 we make maple syrup and the deer are getting slaterd by wolves, we just came back from are cabin on 4/4/2018 and are pond right in frount of the cabin was all red with deer blood and hair. They are killing evreything. I built this cabin 35 years ago and then someone planted wolves, I would never had done that if I would have know they were going to plant wolves in our area now its not even safe to have the grandkids outside by themselves. Thanks.
- 15592 CWD is a huge issue that many people are still in denial about. I support an immediate ban of all deer farming, baiting, feeding, attractant, mineral, urine based scents, etc... until they figure this out. At best, our greed will cost our children the chance to enjoy hunting as we have. At worst, it could cost us our health- possibly our lives. Also, not tagging deer is a joke. Poaching will get worse than it already is. Thank you for considering my comments.
- 15593 I would like to see a few more years of very low antlerless tags available for Forest County to build the up the deer population. I bought land in Forest County 12 years ago and for the first five to eight years I was lucky to see 1 or 2 doe the whole week. This year I was able to see 1 to 2 doe a day. Over the 12 years of owning the land, I have harvested only 3 bucks. I would like to be able to consistently see deer in the woods when hunting.
- 15594 I have seen less deer in the last 8 years and less bucks last year hunting and on my trail cameras. This seems to stems from over hunting anterless deer during bow season years past,and the increase of bears which eat fawns,wolves are at an increase and other predators. So if you increase the quotas, we are going backwards as history should tell you not to kill off more anterless deer. Plus this long winter can't be doing them any good.
- 15595 I stopped attending cdac meetings. It seemed like they never listened to the public. Everybody knows there are few deer up north. We have losted so many hunters up here over the years. what used to be over 20 hunters is now down to 5. Nobody wants to hunt where chances are slim of even seeing a deer. Yet they are going to give 1000 doe tagsand it looks like a severe winter. We are going to be right back to where we started.
- 15596 All deer farms in the entire state should be double fenced, at the owners cost. The public should not pay the price of their infected alimals nor should we be punished by having baiting taken away. Apple Creek Whitetails had numerous CWD deer. Surrounding counties now have a bait ban, but Apple Creek Whitetails have gravity feeders right next to the fence (seen from hwy. R), basically inviting outside deer to their deer.
- 15597 We have seen more wolves in the past few years while hunting and less deer while sitting in our stands. We have also found many wolf kills on our property during and after hunting. Deer populations have decreased dramatically over the past few years and we would like to see those numbers increase. We feel if the number of deer harvested were lowered for the next few yeras it would give the deer a chance to rebound.
- 15598 The deer herd seems to have been growing ever so slowly over the past 10 years. There should not be an increase in antlerless tags in this area to keep promoting the herd growth. The northern half of Forest County has very few deer in the National Forest. Don't get me wrong, if a hunter puts in their time and a lot of miles of scouting they will find deer. It just takes a lot of hours in the stand to see deer.
- 15599 The wolf and other predator impact on our deer herd in the Northern forest zone is way more than the DNR wants to admit. We need far less antlerless tags , maybe even none in this zone. The Chippewa Indians take more deer than get registered or even taken care of than everyone thinks. So in my opinion let some kids take first time deer of either sex but that's about it for antlerless
- 15600 I personally think the DNR should should set a restriction on the buck harvest.. meaning at least 3 points or more on one side. Mainly in the north east. With doing this for 3 years I believe you would see the buck population grow tremendously!! And allow to trap wolfs again. There is a lot more than what they say, and they do a lot of damage to the white tail deer population .



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- 15601 Councils recommendation is to increase herd 2018-2020. Now antlerless quota of 1000 with 1900 permits/private land, 1000/public land with a total harvest of 1000 antlerless seems counterproductive. Low deer population north of highway 8/winter severity has reached moderate/reports of fawn mortality seen. My opinion is council should readjust numbers down.
- 15602 Just wandering if automobile kills and projected predator kills are figured into the projected 2018 quota. Also I have a concern that the extremely long winter, high snow depths and unseasonably cold temperatures should be considered when determining the final quotas. I feel the recommended increase from 1700 to 2900 is too high, especially this year.
- 15603 The difference between the antlerless quota and tags issued in 2017 is not in alignment with the 2018 quota and total tags issued. A much higher percentage of the tags will be filled exceeding the already large increase in the quota.(based on the % of tags filled in 2017) This will not increase the herd as planned, but will lower numbers.
- 15604 Hunted most of bow season and all of gun and seen very few deer or other animals at all,we have very young and some old forest and see very little browsing and not many trails.tried food plots which seemed like a waste of money and time that did not produce many deer or rabbits most is still there with nothing digging in snow to find.
- 15605 Glad to see the CDAC committee is taking a slow conservative path to increase the herd and not create wild population swings. Hopefully some of the folks who hunt the northern part of the county will take the initiative to urge the Forest Service to do more cutting and create mixed age forest.
- 15606 Between the native Americans killing deer (don't be blind on this subject) and the bears and wolves and other predators the deer population is minuscule. I want the youth to be able to have a chance at a deer. This gets them excited and coming back in the future. But only youth can shoot.
- 15607 I think you could double the amount of antlerless tags from 2017 but the amount the DNR is to high. I do not want to go back to antlerless seasons because the DNR thinks there are too many does. I suggest that in the northern part of the zone that the DNR help create habitat for deer.
- 15608 How can we increase the deer population by issuing antlerless tags, if the hunters really want to see more deer they can hold off for antlered deer until the herd can recover. Plain common sense. Face it the over harvesting of antlerless deer is what gut use here in the first place.
- 15609 With the amount of deer I have seen over the past few years I would suggest keeping the antlerless deer kill only open to junior hunters for one to two more years. It has taken a long time to get the numbers back to where a hunter will see deer on a regular basis.
- 15610 I think land owners need to have more rights to manage deer herds using minerals,food plots and supplemental feeding.There are plenty of products available with research behind them to improve overall health and quality of the deer herd.
- 15611 Winter severity has a huge affect on the Northern herd,please take into notice the snow type not just the depth. This winter we seen very crusted snow making difficult travel for hooved animals. Any logging would be recommended.
- 15612 Private land covers 26% of unit, yet receive almost 2x the # of doe tags as public. For covering only 26% of the area, the available doe tags for private land should be 30% to 50% of the total available doe tags for the unit.
- 15613 The deer population has and is taking a huge hit for the past 5 years....bear, coyote, wolf and BAITING Forest county has 1 Warden (Pathetic) Violators roam at will and the Indians hunt round the clock legally in the Fall
- 15614 Why would the DNR plant elk in CWD positive county when they are so concern about CWD infections being spread? Elk came be very mobile and travel several miles in a day. One infected elk could spread CWD in a large area.



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- 15615 Simply get a handle on poaching. I'm not going to risk my behind confronting these guys. Or being noseey just so I can get info to a warden. Where's your law enforcement. I haven't seen a warden in 15 year's.
- 15616 Dismal deer population. The only reason I hunt this area is because I live here. Haven't harvested a deer in eight years. Do not agree with raising the amount of doe tags proposed to be given out at this time.
- 15617 This heard was growing very slowly with 0 antlerless tags the past 8 years. Adding antlerless tags will only slow the heards growth. The no baiting last season was great though!
- 15618 I do not support antlerless tags for this unit, the deer numbers are not there to support it. Also, i do not support limiting the Xbow season.
- 15619 I am not seeing enough growth in the heard to raise antlerless quotas. Deer harvest has not increased dramatically over the past few seasons.
- 15620 lets get some real predator counts. what is affecting mortality rates to the point of only seeing a handful of deer during a 10 day season?
- 15622 I do not understand why they want to raise the antlerless quota when I'm still not seeing any more deer than the previous few years.
- 15621 I think this winter is more severe then most people think. There was a thick crust for quite awhile and now there is very deep snow.
- 15623 There should not be any doe tag and if they do they should divide it into two units tags south no doe tags north
- 15624 I would agree to let junior antler less rags if they would limit it to an age of up to 12 years old and under
- 15625 I have some concern with the length and severity of this winter on the deer population in this zone.
- 15626 I would like to go back to antlerless tags in Forrest County for at least three more years
- 15627 Enjoyed the antlerless season; little, actually none, invasive activity of other hunters.
- 15628 please consider antler restrictions similar to other States, i.e. 3 or 4 on a side.
- 15629 Don't change crossbow season! Hunters have already started to purchase licenses.
- 15630 I would promote a junior antlerless tag for a youth's first deer harvest only.
- 15631 lots of snow in april,long winter. limit doe tags
- 18029



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Grant, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

115 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 56
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 22
I hunt in this unit: 106
General interest in this unit: 21

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 98
Bow: 62
Crossbow: 32
Muzzleloader: 42

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.04
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 80
Mostly Private Land: 10
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 11
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 17
Fewer: 43
Same: 34
More: 13
Many More: 6
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	7	9	52	28	14	5



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	7	46	35	17	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	5	52	24	15	17
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	6	42	65	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	32	79	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	44	62	8
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	13	95	7
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.56
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.76
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.29
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.78
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.33
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.42
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.48
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.47
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.55
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.23



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Grant, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 15632 In each of the past three years the number of deer that I have encountered in the hunting seasons has gone up. Both for antlerless and bucks. Further, nearly every mature doe that I see has twins which indicates high fertility. And means that antlerless harvest levels can be much higher than currently to hold the excessive numbers of deer from growing rapidly higher. The bucks that I have seen are often very large bodied and have large antlers. Not heavy antlers which mean that at the oldest these are three year old bucks. Still I suggest a continuation of hunting for both antlerless and bucks even though the quality of bucks would rise if fewer were shot or killed by bow/crossbow. Where I hunt on private land in Grant County there are few wildflowers making it through to seed set. Reason in nearly all case is destruction by deer. Last year in Grant County without driving very much I observed more than two dozen different deer carcasses on the highways. Why should drivers have to take big risks for their safety and economic damages?
- 15633 Where I hunted in 2017, I saw a total of 11 deer during the 9-day gun hunting season. I was out hunting on 6 different days and I would have liked to see more deer while I was hunting. On another note, I feel there is a male/female imbalance in my area. Of the 11 deer I saw, only 3 were antlerless deer and one I identified as a button buck. I feel that the number of doe in my area are lower than they should be. I also know that on our property that is less than 50 acres, I could with 100% confidence identify 30 different bucks which didn't include button bucks. Through my experiences and information that I have read through the years, I have found that most places exhibit a higher population of does than bucks but I feel that in my area, it is reversed. I feel the main reason for this reverse is that everyone in the area wants to shoot a big buck but also want venison so they shoot a doe for meat and pass on the smaller buck in hopes that it will turn into a giant some day.
- 15634 Two comments 1.i do agree there needs to be does killed in this area but why not buy extra tags for \$12 versus issuing 3 free tags per license. issue 1 free tag per license and sell the rest for the \$12 I would think we could all agree that a deer does have some value to it. 2. just trying to figure out the logic for giving out so many tags per license and not having the holiday hunt. The holiday hunt is a perfect time to manage the doe numbers, kids are off from school and that is a good time to get them out there to hunt. I just think if you are giving out so many doe tags we are in agreement that the numbers are very high why not take advantage of hunting opportunities and have the holiday hunt and extend the archery season
- 15635 Need more QDM in this unit and less antlerless harvest. I have a bachelor's degree in natural resources and have hunted this unit my entire life. As Amish communities have increased in this unit we have seen a drastic decline in deer numbers and mature bucks are very few in far between. The group I hunt with passed up 4 immature bucks opening day and they were all shot shortly later by the Amish. Please impose an antler restriction law of at least 4 points on one side and decrease the amount of doe tags to one per Hunter. Also only one buck shall be harvested per Hunter by any means whether it's a bow, gun or crossbow. This would increase mature bucks numbers and strengthen the herd with stronger genetics.
- 15636 I strongly encourage the Holiday Hunt. I know numerous family and friends who wanted to hunt last winter, but were shocked to find out that we never had a season, even though the surrounding counties did. My 13 year old son was fired up to go hunting, and then crushed to find out there was no season. Why are we taking hunting opportunity away from people who want to hunt? It's a doe only season. If you don't like it, don't participate, but don't take away my opportunity to put another deer in the freezer. Are you afraid we'll hurt the herd? It's growing out of control. A couple more years where the buck kill is nearly as large as the doe kill and we'll be wishing we had earn-a-buck back.



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- 15637 The CWD regulations are bull. CWD has been scientifically proven to not be dangerous to humans. These regulations have been put in place due to insurance claims. They are decimating our deer heard. Other problems are not getting sufficient private land to hunt on, being denied permission to hunt them. If a farmer claims deer damage, let more hunters in. Our cost of hunting in other states is extreme but yet you let out-of-staters hunt for minimal fees. That causes more hunters in Wisconsin, from other states, and we have a major problem finding land to hunt on. Why the hell did Wisconsin bring some-one from Texas up here to manage our herd? What does Texas have in common with Wisc.????!!!
- 15638 I understand that deer are very pocketed in Grant County. In the area I hunt there are A LOT of deer. I travel to Grant County for the bow/crossbow season and second half of the gun season. I continue to be amazed that the Grant CDAC, despite an obvious overabundance of deer in some areas, refuses to authorize a Holiday Hunt. It is a great tool for deer management, doesn't interfere with non-hunting outdoor activities (as some self-serving people suggest) and offers a great opportunity for those who like to hunt--especially with kids who are off of school. Have the courage to do the right thing. Authorize a Holiday Hunt!
- 15639 I attended the CDAC in March for Grant County and I was not surprised when there was not any support for the Holiday hunt from the audience or the committee. The general feeling of the crowd was that what it adds to the harvest does not out weight the dislike of that season by the landowners and hunters. We need to create shorter seasons with a higher impact so hunters get out there to get the job done. With the long seasons hunters seem to keep putting off going out until it's to late. I would like to know if the dept takes into consideration the increase in vehicles and miles driven when it comes to car kill increases?
- 15640 With number of small parcels of land, this is a tough nut to crack. I'm sure there are areas in the southern farmland zone low populations. I've seen a lot of deer on my property this winter. I think the doe only season is the only way to eliminate them. The younger generation eat less venison. We need a more expansive donation program to get the deer to the people that need it. More hunters are after the buck only because they don't know what to do with all the meat. Putting a size restriction on bucks might help also. Oh, and get rid of crossbows. Please eliminate the ability to shine deer at night.
- 15641 The deer herd is getting way to high again. I am trying to get forest regeneration, both natural and by planting trees. For the past 3 years I have planted oak and maple, and the deer continue to browse them off. I am spending a lot of time and resources to get successful regeneration and the deer are preventing that from happening. I can't afford, nor should I have to fence off my property from the deer. The deer herd needs to be brought down to the carrying capacity of the forests, not a herd that is supplemented by ag crops.
- 15642 I'm not in favor of reducing cross bow season dates. If not for allowing I would have quit hunting all together. Allowing the use of a cross bow got me back into hunting and fishing again. Technology has advanced the sucess rate in all forms of hunting. It's my choice to use bow, gun or cross bow. If the the tradionalist who oppose cross bow hunting maybe we should draw cow the privelage and limit tags like Iowa. Their tune will change then. At my age I'm greatful you gave me an option to enjoy the sport and increase my sucess rate.
- 15643 I'd like to see less antlerless tags available during the normal gun hunt so people have a chance at getting a deer (spread the success around). If your neighbor shoots 3 deer right away, you don't get any. Spread the tags out over special antlerless and holiday hunts. Please don't get rid of the antlerless season. That was a great way for this newish hunter to feel less pressured in the field (much less competition). You are trying to grow the hunting ranks, right? Pittman Robertson \$\$\$.
- 15644 This year I saw 1 small doe in six days of hunting. Last year nothing in 6 days of hunting. Give the deer a chance to come back! Way to much poaching in the area I hunt along with way to many doe being taken as they might be the only deer seen during deer season. Wardens can't do much about poaching because I can't pinpoint the exact location and what the person looks like. Shots at dusk and before dawn along with during the night.



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- 15645 1. I don't understand the constant changes to the deer hunting regs. Especially the on line check in and no back tags. I'm not sure how dnr enforces the regs. Was something broken that had to be fixed? 2. I saw zero deer last season, no harvest. 3. I am more inclined to participate in an early hunt (October) rather than a later holiday hunt. If the goal is to harvest more does, why not have the October hunt?
- 15646 Deer over browsing is ruining the native vegetation in the woodland understory on portions of my property. Planting of hardwood seedlings is a fool's errand unless the seedlings have tree tube protection. Grant County will not have natural regeneration of desired hardwood species unless the deer population is reduced. Need to have a Holiday Hunt to work more aggressively to control the deer numbers.
- 15647 Very few deer. Other hunters on this property told me when they bow hunt they hear shots before daylight and at dusk a lot! Everyone suspects poaching is done in this area but can't pinpoint location as it seems to come from all over. Need some kind of enforcement if at all possible. Won't shoot the only deer that has the potential to double the population for next year.
- 15648 Thank you for listening. I personally felt I see less deer than before. I feel there is too much hunting pressure and not enough deer. I always enjoyed sitting and seeing unpressured deer but now you have to do deer drives to see any and then they are going 90 miles an hour and then you are making unethical shots.
- 15649 Cwd is starting to take its toll on populations. We should look to increase the population because of this.also the number of deer seen over the past few years is declining.if populations aren't increased more people will leave the sport because of their frustration not seeing deer.
- 15650 THE DEER POPULATION ON THE DNR LAND ALONG THE WISCONSIN RIVER HAS DECREASED OVER THE YEARS. LACK OF FOOD AND THE LARGE INCREASE OF COYOTES IS MOSTLY TO BLAME. WHEN THE LAND WAS FARMED, THERE WERE A GOOD NUMBER OF DEER. STARTING TO REMIND ME OF THE LATE 1960S AND THE EARLY 1970S.
- 15651 I oppose the Holiday antlerless hunt, but do support extending the archery season to Jan 31. I Support limiting the crossbow season to a limited time range due to the much higher success rate for this weapon compared to traditional archery and gun success rates.
- 15652 Many hunters in this area are seeing less deer I think cwd is killing more than we think.get rid of extra permits and let the herd grow.archery has a toolong of season already.if needed bring back the anterless early season in Oct.if the herd is too big
- 15653 Still too many deer in some areas of the unit but I realize that is a biological fact and the current management unit structure is too broad geographically and doesn't allow differential harvest goals in the higher deer population areas.
- 15654 I was quite pleased with my deer hunting experience last fall. I spent a lot of time in the woods during archery and gun season and can't remember a day when I didn't see a deer. I wish for this situation to continue. thanks for asking,
- 15655 Having a deer season run till the end of Jan. is absurd! There are other outdoor sports during that time that would be interfered with. They have 4 months to shoot deer already, which is already to long!!
- 15656 I'd love to see the holiday hunt, does and bucks brought back. Someone told me there was consideration to shorten the crossbow season to be shorter than the bow season, I hope that doesn't happen
- 15657 Strongly support a holiday hunt. Often it is the only time to hunt with snow on the ground. Also allows those with few paid holiday days to take advantage of christmas/new year days off.
- 15658 No early hunts you are killing archery hunting in this State. I enjoy now hunting and it seems every time you turn around their is another gun hunt.
- 15659 I hunt on roughly 700 acres of private ground that contains about 100 acres of timber. Average number of deer seen per hunt is around 3-6



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- 15660 There shouldn't be an extended archery season due to the fact that bucks can shed their antlers and does are already 2-3 months pregnant.
- 15661 Coyotes are a big problem on my land, we need to reduce the number. They are killing alot of small game and deer fawns.
- 15662 The deer population in this unit is OK, I do not feel is is to high. Maintaining the herd is the proper mode now.
- 15663 The CDAC needs to become more serious about decreasing the deer herd. CWD is a serious concern.
- 15664 Not many deer. Suspect poaching has cut down on deer numbers.
- 15665 No holiday hunt and no extended antler less hunts
- 18030



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Green Lake, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

73 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 41
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 5
I hunt in this unit: 53
General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 49
Bow: 34
Crossbow: 17
Muzzleloader: 19

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 25.67
Maximum: 56

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 41
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 4
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 14
Fewer: 26
Same: 23
More: 7
Many More: 3
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	6	7	20	25	12	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	8	24	18	17	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	6	22	16	20	6
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	14	25	32	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	21	46	6
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	29	41	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	11	56	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.10
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.00
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.63
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.55
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	2.78
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.85
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.67
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.33
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.37
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.40
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.23



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Green Lake, Central Farmland

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15689 I have been hunting the same area for 40 years & I am lucky to see 1 or 2 deer a season. We don't need a holiday hunt!!!!!! The whole problem now is where the deer bed & the people who own the bedding areas. These people go out & hunt only opening day & are done. I hunt farmland with minimal coverage & don't see nowhere near the deer I saw as a teenager. If the DNR wants more deer shot off let's open the season to 24 hrs a day on private property, you can hunt varmints at night why not nocturnal deer on private property? QDM has gotten out of hand!!!! I remember letting neighbors hunt & getting along now they are enemies during hunting season!!! When hunting farmland the deer come out at night only & the recreational hunters would never believe in making a drive now days. The neighbor might shoot Bullwinkle. Also if you idiots want more doe's shot then offer more buck tags but in order, to get them you have to shoot 3 doe's to get an extra buck tag & stop group hunting!!!!!! The people who hunt until Jan 31 are only hunters waiting for Bullwinkle. I also snowmobile & when we get snow in December I want to ride. I do not want to squabble with hunters when we have snow. I believe snowmobiling brings in more money than late season deer hunting!!!!!! The deer seasons are too long & too expensive to shoot more than 1 or 2 deer a year. I also used to teach hunters ED & quit because I'm tired of the games the DNR plays. Either ban tower stand hunting or go to 24/7 hunting on private property!!!!!!

15690 I have personally seen deer numbers increase to levels not seen since I started hunting in the 90s. My personal trail cam survey indicates over 40 different deer frequent my property and they have devastated the ag crops on my land. Extending the gun season to 16 days, earn a buck, a doe only season and more doe tags are all things I support. My property borders public land on three sides and deer concentrate on my property due to easy access to food. I don't see the public land pressure from hunters that I used to see years ago. Hunter recruitment needs to be a priority to help manage the resource and limit crop damage to crops that we as a society depend on for food. My property is in the north west part of the county and I feel that the habitat there supports and concentrates deer to the area because of the lack of habitat in other parts of the county. I would support another reorganization of management units to address the disparity between habitats across the county.

15691 The impact to agricultural producers of feeding this large deer herd is overwhelming and financially burdening. Depending on the location, an average farmer may lose anywhere from \$1000 in the more open areas in the southern part of the county where the deer are at appropriate levels to more than \$30,000 in the densely populated areas. And that is just in lost feed or bushels not counting the cost of seed, fert, chemicals, land rent, etc. So not only did we harvest a reduced crop but we still payed all the expenses of growing it. Not only does the deer herd need to be reduced in parts of the county but more control needs to be given to the farmers that are feeding them. The current wildlife damage programs do not work on leased land of which a considerable amount of farm land is.

15692 I am a 15 year old freshman at Markesan. We see deer plenty right from the front window of our home. I am not happy we don't get to use the holiday hunt to fill some of our doe tags. Being off of school is the main reason. I have a bunch of time to hunt. How come our local CADAC keeps voting it out? My dad and I had a lot of success in 2016 when we were allowed to hunt. It sure has been an easy winter for the deer. It will be fun seeing all the fawns shortly, but it's just more mouths to feed. I looked at the maps and see that most if the counties around us are holding a holiday hunt (Even ones that give out less tags). Based on the browse lines, and the destruction in our fields, I would think a hunt to fill antlerless tags is important.



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- 15693 Deer numbers are strong in south central GL county and everyone should see it. Coming off this easy winter, we will be overrun by fawns. I am very disappointed that a holiday hunt is not recommended in 2018. This is a mistake. Why do we keep getting piles of tags and less opportunity to use them??? Because I am off of work for Christmas, I have more days to hunt at the holiday time than I do during the late Tzone. I can't see that snowmobiling is an issue. We rarely get enough snow to open trails at that time. Can the CDAC publisher their reasons for not holding a holiday hunt? It will help ease some of the frustration with this process.
- 15694 Not holding a 2018 holiday hunt is a bad idea. It's a great time to fill antlerless tags. Much better than the late Tzone. The GLC CDAC can keep giving us all the tags they want, but if we don't get more seasons we can't help. Expecting different results from the same behavior is insanity. It would be nice if the meeting minutes listed the reasons for disapproving holding a holiday hunt. I would think a representative from transportation, and a representative from agriculture would have a more liberal view of the hunting opportunities. Very disappointed.....again.
- 15695 I want to thank the CDAC for their work. I also want to encourage you to hold the Holiday Hunt this year. I know that the snowmobilers have made a big stink, but they rarely have snow at this time of the year anyway, and the health of our deer herd is far more important than a few days of snowmobiling. We don't have CWD in the county yet. Let's do all we can to keep it that way for as long as possible!!! This is far more important than any opposition regardless of who it comes from! Thank you for having the courage to do what's right!
- 15696 I didn't see much for deer at all our farm is in both Columbia and Green lake county,our neighbors shoot way to many ag tags,but they don't shoot them where they deer hunt? And why are the shooting them after the horns have dropped? Why is this done,I been hunting a lot of years,if this ag tag thing isn't fixed I'm going to stop hunting?A couple of years ago my neighbor lost his ag tags because of a violation,now hes back at it ?why?there is no deer left in our marshi bow hunting there last fall never seen a deer,you need to fix this
- 15697 Stop all the ag tags. Especially handing them out in January and allowing people to fill them tags after deer started dropping antlers. Ag tags should need to be filled where the damage is. Not on another farm. Ridiculous. All these free doe tags are a joke too! I like seeing deer when i go hunting. One neighbor fills every tag they get. And there is a small army hunting there. The other neighbor shoots a bunch of ag tags in January and February. What sense does that make. I support 1 buck a year.
- 15698 Misinformation being used to use or not use tools to control harvest is a poor way to control the deer herd. Personal goals/beliefs expressed to not use tools rather than looking at the over all desire of the committee to control the heard. If not going to use the tools available to the committee then go back to earn a buck or total antlerless only season.
- 15699 The public land gets far to much pressure. Many of the private guys come to the public to shoot does. There used to be a ton of deer on the white river marsh. From years of over harvest there are not nearly the amount of deer left. If the herd needs to be reduced, the reduction needs to be done on the surrounding private property.
- 15700 Interested in seeing a 8 pt. or better antler restriction implemented. It would increase doe harvest for objective with hunters filling their tag with anterless deer instead of small bucks. Especially if they just want one deer for the freezer. Also increase quality and average age of bucks. Encouraged QDM would be popular.
- 15701 Limit the amount of deer tags. Nobody needs 4+ deer a year. The season is long enough, we don't need a holiday hunt. If the DNR wants deer shot off, make 24hour deer hunting on private property. You can shoot predators like coyotes year round at all hours, why not deer? We don't need a holiday hunt.
- 15702 We loved the holiday hunt! Please bring it back! Many hunters have time off during the holidays and it is a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and possibly put a little venison in the freezer even if the gun season didn't go as well as we hoped.



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- 15703 I would like to see, that the week before the gun season, be closed to all hunting like years past. What about moving the muzzle loader season later in the year. This would give deer time to settle down in between seasons
- 15704 You can't properly control the deer herd if land owners refuse to take antlerless deer. Certain areas are way over populated because of this and are probably at a greater risk for disease
- 15705 Please do not do away with the Archery & Crossbow season running at the same time. I've seen more hunters wanting to & starting archery because of crossbows.
- 15706 I am in favor of an extensive crossbow season as has occurred the past 3 years. It should run concurrent with the entire length of the regular bow season.
- 15707 It is quit obvious that when you look at the number of antlerless permits available verses those that were purchased.
- 15708 My wife totalled her vehicle last week because of a deer. Eastern green lake needs more alterless tags.
- 15709 Bring back earn a buck One buck per hunter limit as opposed to separated shortened crossbow season
- 15710 Crossbow season must be limited for general population
- 15711 Keep killing the does and WI will be MN
- 15712 Don't shorten season for crossbows.
- 15713 The hunting season is long enough.
- 15714 Implement earn a buck.
- 15715 Need a wolf hunt
- 15716 Good Luck!!
- 18032



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Green, Southern Farmland

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53 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 40
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
I hunt in this unit: 43
General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 37
Bow: 28
Crossbow: 15
Muzzleloader: 10

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 20.28
Maximum: 52

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 32
Mostly Private Land: 8
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 7
Fewer: 15
Same: 20
More: 9
Many More: 1
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	4	21	13	12	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	4	20	16	9	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	5	23	12	9	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	4	25	22	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	12	40	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	15	36	1
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	5	44	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	1.96
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.43
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.55
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.12
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.24
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.00
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.06
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.25
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.29
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.18



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Green, Southern Farmland

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- 15666 DNRs population estimate is grossly overstated. The population estimate procedure needs to be changed to be based on scientific data. The population estimates in the past have not been supported by the harvest data which shows a very consistent harvest and population. The overstated population estimated is not supported by the residents of Green County and undermines the credibility of DNR on other issues. Past errors in population estimates and unrealistic quotas are history and should not be used to support future scientific population estimates. Population estimates are important because they are used to evaluate the population trend in the DMU. To error while trying to achieve excellence is acceptable, but to continue repeating the mistake instead of accepting the responsibility and changing should not be tolerated.
- 15667 living here for over 10 years, the deer population was at a healthy level at that time and the numbers have gone down continuously since. Very quickly, more hunters and less deer now. There have been more specialized seasons, longer seasons and more advanced weapons to hunt deer. Very disappointing that there are less Mature bucks in the herd now as well. It is too easy to get a deer now and many young bucks have been getting shot so less and less mature deer to shoot. There is no need for someone to shoot more than 2 deer in a season. Should be one deer with a bow either sex, NO CROSSBOWS, one deer with a gun includes rifle or muzzleloader either sex and one bonus antlerless tag for season either bow or gun. No special seasons anymore thanks
- 15668 I live and own a farm in the county and drive to madison every day and will say I didn't see near as many roadkills last year and not as many deer on our farm as the year before so I assume the population is down. Also I really would like no gun hunting during the christmas holiday season as I have family cutting wood and just out doing other things on the farm as they only get home twice a year and I don't feel its right as a landowner we have to deal with guns and hunters next to us at this time of year. Hunters have plenty of time for that the rest of the fall so please continue not having that holiday season and it seems like it isn't needed as less deer anyway
- 15669 Lets not overthink this.. Sell one deer hunting license that would include Gun Archery and Muzzleloader seasons. Have a traditional 9 day gun season. Regular Archery and Muzzleloader seasons. Give two tags only, and let the hunter choose themselves what sex they wish to harvest. This would help with Crossbow vs Bow issue as well. Eliminate all special seasons. Raise the cost of out of state licenses. And give us our back tags back! Any one caught violating the harvest rules automatically loses hunting privilege for 10 years and fined 10 thousand dollars. Hunting in Wisconsin is a privilege not a right. Thank you for this opportunity to give my opinion
- 15670 Shorten the bow season. Those that live in this area get no peace from hunters during non stop season Sept to Jan. Last bow and gun season had at 4 injured/dying does and 2 bucks found dead or dying in area. 3 by gun 3 by cross bow. Hunters are not following everything they shoot. Also have seen illegal baiting with pumpkins laid out in front of tree stand. Need more game wardens assigned. Area where we live is so residential I don't understand how hunting is allowed so near. It's dangerous and unfair to property owners.
- 15671 I wish this state would quit putting all these chances for extra seasons. It just seems like traditional type seasons just isn't good enough anymore just getting a bigger gap between hunters and killers. I say this because a hunter has plenty of time from sept to end of december to harvest deer. I refuse to hunt these extra seasons and hope the cdac committee continues to say no to these extra seasons such as Holiday hunts and extended bow season as there is absolutely no reason for them



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 15672 I feel that you are giving away too many antlerless tags as anyone that buys a bow and a gun license ends up with 4 which they have basically 3 and a half months to fill them if they want so as far as opportunities to do this is plenty and that's too many deer as I don't see the deer herd growing at all by me and there is absolutely NO need for a holiday hunt or an extended season.If the committee decides to put these seasons into action I along with a few buddies are done hunting.
- 15673 Do the WDNR's field personnel feel they have adequate time and budget resources to present a more concise metric for Green Co.? If CWD and automobile accidents are a major issue in our area (as they should be), would opening up private lands for hunting by providing incentives to land owners help solve more deer demographic problems? Are there any recommendations that could help put more wasted wild game (either from road kills or donated meat) into our food pantries?
- 15674 The antlerless permits available are not being sold or given away so why does the CDAC keep increasing the number available? It appears that the Council is not representing the people of Green County and just endorsing the DNR agenda. If you believe that here are forty six deer per mile of habitat then you need to get out of the house and take a walk in the woods. That population estimate is over 100% too high!
- 15675 In this county there are very few deer drives anymore and most hunters are hunting out of some type of stand,therefore I think group hunting is no longer necessary and is very often misused with one or more hunters shooting to many deer. I think it would be in the best interest of Wisconsin deer hunting to discontinue this practice
- 15676 Any talks of eliminating hunting with a crossbow is absolutely absurd. I'm sure most of this rhetoric is coming from the so called purists. Yet they cant seem to draw a correlation between the same arguments when vertical compound bows were introduced. Bottom line crossbows bring in new hunters and keep the older ones in the game.
- 15677 I am sad to see people aren't going to buy the bonus tags any way. It is too bad, since buying bonus tags funds CWD testing. Even if they won't be filled, people should still buy them as the money goes to a good cause. That said, there are lots of deer in this county, so when are other hunters going to be satisfied?
- 15678 As a property owner, deer numbers and damage are unacceptable. I hit a deer with a vehicle this year and have significant yard and farm damage. Deer numbers are 5-10 times what the land can support. There will be few native species remaining if deer numbers remain at current levels.
- 15679 I had a friend at the last meeting and he said someone proposed having a buck only holiday hunt which I hope never happens and am so glad that the committee chose to not have the holiday hunt again and please don't give anymore free tags away than already are as I think it's too many
- 15680 As a avid gun hunter I am thankful for no additional gun season such as the holiday hunt there is plenty of opportunities to harvest another deer as I read it during a 4 day antlerless hunt in December anyway
- 15681 very happy to see no holiday hunt as i enjoy the traditional type seasons and feel I have plenty of hunting time thru the whole season and don't need to stress what makes it thru going into winter
- 15682 please don't put a holiday hunt thru as it is so nice for our family to be able to enjoy our property without worrying about hunters and stray bullets
- 15683 Would support an antlerless only holiday hunt. Would support EAB if necessary. Would like a shorter crossbow season, not during the rut.
- 15684 I would like to see the muzzle loader hunt around the Holidays instead of right after the regular 9 day hunt.
Thanks
- 15685 The same tags should be able to use on public or private!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 15686 Limit the crossbow season they are taking too many deer!



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15687 There are not as many deer as there needs to be.

15688 Would like to see going back to a 2nd buck tag

18031



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Iowa, Southern Farmland

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156 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

- I live in this unit: 78
- I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 27
- I hunt in this unit: 125
- General interest in this unit: 30

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

- Gun: 116
- Bow: 87
- Crossbow: 37
- Muzzleloader: 40

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

- Minimum: 1
- Average: 20.15
- Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

- Exclusively Private Land: 95
- Mostly Private Land: 15
- Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
- Mostly Public Land: 1
- Exclusively Public Land: 9
- I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

- Not at all Crowded: 2
- Not too crowded: 10
- Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
- Somewhat crowded: 2
- Very crowded: 5
- Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

- Many Fewer: 20
- Fewer: 45
- Same: 56
- More: 24
- Many More: 7
- Unsure: 4

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	12	28	64	38	12	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	13	77	49	9	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	5	15	81	32	12	9
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	24	92	38	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	63	84	7
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	73	75	6
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	21	122	11
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.19
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.40
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.83
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.07
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.97
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.46
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.54
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.52
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.50
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.52



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Comments for Iowa, Southern Farmland

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15717 I have concerns that the preliminary recommendations of the Iowa County Deer Advisory Council (ICDAC) are not fully consistent with their final October 2017 recommendation to pursue a population objective to Decrease the deer herd, 2018-2020. With subsequent adoption by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board (NRB), I believe good faith pursuit of this objective is now mandatory upon the Council unless formally amended by NRB. In 2017, in the final year under the previous 3-year Maintain population objective, the antlerless harvest quota = 5160, and in an attempt to achieve that quota, free farmland tags per license = 2, public land bonus tags available = 650, private land bonus tags available = 3000, and a holiday hunt antlerless season was offered. Now for 2018, the first year under the new 3-year Decrease population objective, the ICDAC is making the preliminary recommendation to reduce the antlerless harvest quota to 3000, to keep the farmland tags/license, bonus public and private the same, and to not offer the holiday hunt. The overall impression is that the ICDAC is recommending less aggressive herd control under the current Decrease objective than they did under the former Maintain objective. I appreciate that setting a quota well above recently observed antlerless harvests can be frustrating and may possibly be seen as ineffective in producing any real change. Yet we should remember that Iowa County deer hunters have shot more than 5000 antlerless deer repeatedly in the past, and could well do so again. Reducing the quota when you've just recently recommended and been approved to decrease the deer population may send a conflicting signal to Iowa County hunters. One area where it seems the ICDAC is clearly foregoing antlerless harvest opportunity is in not recommending the Holiday Hunt antlerless season. It is unconvincing to state that the holiday hunt is unwanted by hunters, when there are statements by hunters on the record supporting and requesting the season. It is unconvincing to present vague observations that people are seeing fewer deer, or that some food plots not fully picked clean during a very mild and snowless winter are evidence of a falling deer population, when model trends, crop damage permit requests and car vehicle collisions indicate a steady or increasing population. Remember, the ICDAC is on record as wanting to decrease the Iowa County herd—so don't be afraid to attempt to do it. Last year 181 antlerless deer were taken during the holiday hunt season. If those deer were not taken, they would have increased to about 210-220 deer by this fall. This may not seem like a lot county-wide, but when you have so few tools available to increase deer harvest, can you afford to turn down any potential additional harvest? Among those 181 antlerless deer taken during the holiday hunt in Iowa County last December, 12 are known to have been CWD positive animals, and there were very likely other positive deer that went unsampled. If these deer had not been killed, they likely would have continued to shed infectious prions for another 1-9 months or more, and possibly given birth to fawns with a high probability of being infected themselves. Can we afford not to remove any sick deer at the earliest possible opportunity? Finally, it was offered that the Edmunds 2016 study from Wyoming suggests that states may want to consider reducing or eliminating antlerless harvest in the face of CWD prevalence exceeding 26% to maintain herds. To this offering, I will just say that this is a very complicated issue, which depends not only on disease prevalence, but also on differential survival rates of CWD+ and CWD- animals, and also on baseline herd productivity. The SW deer study is trying hard to get data on these factors that can be used to better manage deer herds facing CWD challenge. But pending hard data over multiple years from the SW study, in my opinion it is too soon to begin curtailing antlerless harvest to ensure long-term population survival in the face of CWD. If however the ICDAC disagrees, you should appeal to the NRB for permission to amend your population objective. Respectfully submitted in appreciation of the efforts of the Iowa County Deer Advisory Council.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 15718 There are many reasons why there should be a holiday hunt, extended bow season, and free antlerless tags available to hunters in Iowa County. One reason, there is a population issue in many parts of the county. I can give many routes in the county people can drive and see more than enough deer in fields. You can also see how many are hit by vehicles in those same routes, leading to expensive repairs and high insurance costs. What about agricultural damage? Are farmers just suppose to absorb the cost of too many deer? I believe many do because of pressure from neighbors to not enroll. CWD is a concern to me and many others in the county and state. I will not eat a positive deer, and will not feed it to my family. The risk is not worth it, and I made that decision even before the macaque monkey study. Unfortunately that means we need to discard a portion of the deer we harvest due to a high prevalence in the area we hunt, one reason why we need free antlerless tags. I shouldn't have to pay for a tag just so I can maybe eat one I harvest. I feel people need to do the research on CWD. CWD can eventually affect a population once it reaches a high enough prevalence, there are studies from out west that show it. Genetics will not eventually solve the issue. Those deer that are resistant does not mean they are immune. They just take longer to succumb to it and in the meantime, keep spreading it by spreading prions. We need to think about future generations. What are we going to leave them with. Iowa County is a decrease county so every tool should be used. That means enough antlerless tags, a holiday hunt, and extended bow season.
- 15719 The CDAC set a 3 year population objective to DECREASE the deer herd, and you're recommending to remove tools to help achieve that!?! By not recommending the Holiday Hunt, you are stating that you are not serious about your decrease objective. Just because some folks don't like the Holiday Hunt (for whatever reason), do not take it away from those WHO DO take advantage of the hunt. The Holiday Hunt not only aids landowners to reduce deer numbers on their land, but also gives hunters another chance to harvest a deer when/if their first deer should test positive for CWD. Despite the high prevalence rates in some areas of this county, we can not ignore the fact that CWD has not yet taken hold of our deer population. We need to do everything we can to reduce deer numbers now so the spread of this disease slows. Hunters in Lafayette, Grant, Dane and other surrounding counties are looking to us AND YOU to do something. Stick to your decision to decrease the deer herd in Iowa County and KEEP THE HOLIDAY HUNT!
- 15720 I feel that there is a mixed message with this survey. We think deer harvests are down, but we also register deer based on the honor system. So that's like believing everything on the internet is true. I noticed a significant decrease in numbers and that wasn't because we were harvesting a lot of deer. I also believe that Iowa county hasn't been a concern for CWD but yet we still want to reduce the deer herd. If we are truly concerned with CWD or other diseases we should be looking at these companies that have created minerals that help prevent EHD or CWD. In my opinion we as sportsman should be able to manage the deer herd and if possible help the spread of diseases. We don't need to add another holiday hunt or additional antlerless tags. I do support the extension of bow into late Jan. This could help with some late season quota and it isn't a free for all with guns. Just my two cents.
- 15721 From December through April it is common to see upwards of 30 deer congregating in farm fields primarily north of Hwy 18/151. It is also becoming more common to see deer with outward signs of CWD i.e., drooling, little to no fear of humans, emancipated appearance, dropped head, etc. It also appears as though the hunting pressure has dropped significantly during the gun-deer season over the last 5 years or so (at least in the area north of Barneveld) where CWD infection rates are purported to be the highest. Without strong hunting pressure, there are no limiting factors for the continued growth in deer population densities in this area, particularly since there is a ready food supply (i.e., corn and soybeans) that either remain after harvest coupled with less than severe winters. To maintain a healthy heard, even with CWD present, population densities need to be reduced.



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- 15722 I think there should be a holiday hunt for the 2018 deer season. The holiday hunt might not be the most popular, as in people hunting during this time, but it gives people more opportunities. If a gun hunter is wanting to shoot a buck, they will probably pass on an antlerless deer to try to get a buck. During the antlerless season, it doesn't give them an option and they will shoot the antlerless deer. It also helps decrease the population of deer. In my opinion, there are way to many deer in southern Wisconsin. You can see some in almost any field and sometimes they are in groups of 40 or more. The past deer season, I ran out of antlerless tags quickly and I had 4 of them. Other family members also shot 4 deer during the season. I saw many more antlerless deer after my tags were gone and this to me means the area is overpopulated.
- 15723 Who's idea was it to extend the archery season and why was it not shared with the public before the first meeting? At the rate of all of these extra seasons, we will have a year around any weapon season soon. Give us a tradition season and put the fun back into hunting. Who wants to field dress a doe that is 3 month pregnant with twins? I want to use my property for other things besides hunting in late dec and feb without neighbors firearm or cross gun hunting. If you want to close the snowmobile trails until feb 1, vote for the holiday hunt and extended archery season. My deer sightings were down last year but some people will not be happy until there are none left in Iowa county. Cwd mismanagement has killed more deer than cwd ever will. The county goal should be slightly decrease not just decrease.
- 15724 I am opposed to an idea that is being proposed for future seasons; that of limiting crossbow hunting opportunities. I feel that if the county's goal is to reduce the deer herd, it does not make sense to limit the means of harvesting deer that are currently available to hunters. It seems that statistics suggest that crossbow hunters have achieved a larger degree of success. Many crossbow users have chosen this means of harvest because of personal choices. If crossbows allow hunters to have a more efficient or successful hunt they should be allowed to continue to use this method without interference from non-crossbow users. Historically, the same argument was employed when compound hunting bows were introduced. It seems that all available means should be employed to accomplish the agencies goals.
- 15725 I do not trust the numbers the DNR puts out, and personally have harvest records and herd population estimates supplied by the DNR for over almost 40 years for every zone in Wisconsin that prove the DNR has been posting misleading and impossible stats to sway the number of permits issued and sold. The population varies greatly from farm to farm. Habitat, hunting pressure, and even the time of year will cause the population to vary. They do not take any of this into consideration when they propose these date and permit changes. They are currently collaring deer and predators to determine their travel and fatality rates. Which is a duplicate study that was done over 30 years ago. For which I have the results of that study and am curious to see how the results compare. I'm guessing they will not.
- 15726 I feel that certain members of the committee ONLY respect the wishes of big buck bow hunters. They veil this preference behind cherry picked incomplete scientific articles and keeping with "tradition". If we are so concerned with tradition, let's talk more about trail cams, ATV's, mineral licks, food plots, carbon fiber arrows, RAGE broadheads, crossbows, a four month long bow season, etc. I would like those CDAC members to know that their hypocrisy does not go unnoticed. They should be more respectful of the wishes of meat hunters. If this meat hunter doesn't see some changes in the right direction I will have no problem harvesting 8-10 deer during the regular season and taking my chances on CWD results. Thank you.
- 15727 The goal for Iowa County that this council set forth is to decrease the population of white tailed deer. Which I think is a very wise decision due to the increasing prevalence of CWD positive deer in this part of the state. In order to decrease the population I fully support a holiday hunt. The holiday hunt also gives hunters who rely on the meat of their harvest second chance to shoot a CWD negative deer if they harvest a CWD positive deer during the 9-day gun hunt and during the bow season. Do not take away this opportunity for an additional tool to decrease the herd (the county goal) and opportunity for the hunters who hunt for meat to shoot a CWD negative deer. I VOTE YES FOR A HOLIDAY HUNT.



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- 15728 I highly oppose a holiday hunt. After reviewing multiple cameras (we have 28 on our property), several of our bucks in the area had shed one or both antlers. Unless a deer was within 10 yards, the likelihood of successfully identifying an antlerless deer cannot be guaranteed. I would be happy to share these photos if requested. I am also in favor of the old "earn a buck" rule. I think it was a management tool used in the past that successfully reduced deer populations, yet "saved" management objectives for individual property owners. I would encourage a reintroduction of this rather than lengthening or adding additional gun deer seasons outside the typical 9 day gun deer season.
- 15729 I am both a gun and a bow hunter and feel that there is more than enough time to harvest deer in the seasons given to us here in Iowa county. I am also a avid snowmobiler and do not want these seasons to interfere with each other. It seems to be that here in southern Wisconsin we don't get to many chances to open the trails and would not want to miss out on that because of one land owner not wanting the trails open because of some doe only hunt. From my past experience i don't see many hunters out on these extra seasons. The hunters that are out are the hunters that have probably already shot more deer then one person could possibly eat in one year. Just my thoughts Thanks
- 15730 I cannot understand how the CDAC thinks. The 3 year goal is to decrease the deer population yet the CDAC removes both late-season hunts and does not consider extending the bow season. With only a 9 day gun season, many fewer deer will be shot, especially if the opening weekend has poor conditions like last year (fog, rain). The result will be an increasing herd which is opposite the goal. I support the Holiday hunt and would also recommend it include buck harvest. That would result in much greater hunter participation which would increase both the antlerless and buck kill. With those hunts the option of extending the bow season is in play, and I support that extension.
- 15731 I strongly support a Holiday Hunt in Iowa County. This hunt is fun and allows more time in the woods with family and friends. MOST IMPORTANT, it provides the opportunity to bag additional deer after the CWD test results from the early bow and gun deer seasons come back positive for CWD and the venison is disposed. CWD test results from deer harvested during the early bow season or regular gun deer season are usually available to the successful hunter prior to the Holiday Hunt. If CWD test results are positive, the Holiday Hunt provides another opportunity to harvest a deer that will hopefully test negative for CWD. Please vote "YES" for a Holiday Hunt in 2018.
- 15732 Too many free tags are issued. There should be only 1 free tag/license not 2. CDAC should have stayed with maintain recommendation for another 3 years instead of changing to decrease recommendation. The holiday hunt is a waste of time and ticks off more hunters than it is worth. Why have a holiday hunt that takes less than 200 deer, but makes so many hunters, landowners, snowmobilers and other users of the outdoors mad? Very happy it was voted down this year. CWD problem is overblown! I have never seen, shot, or had a trail camera photo of a sick deer and don't find any dead while shed hunting either. I like the CDAC instead of the DNR telling us what to do.
- 15733 CWD obviously is a big concern but we can only monitor it, we can't fix it. Why do you as our wildlife care takers want people to believe that you can? I hunted on one the most hard hit CWD farms in our area.. Lower Wyoming valley should be a lesson to all, Hunters and DNR alike. I hunted this area in the late 90's-early 2000's It was some of the best hunting I have ever had but it obviously came with a price. Overpopulation is a killer, I believe that the DNR has to put in the time to see where these overpopulated Areas are and fix them.. Our public land sucks. Its overhunted, They will never be overpopulated so many people have no other places to hunt.



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- 15734 This is the first year in many I have standing corn and soybeans that where not eaten. I seen less deer over the hunting season as well. The low number of deer harvested during the holiday hunt does not justify the season. There is over 2 months of deer hunting opportunity as it sits, how much more do we need. Another concern of having the holiday hunt is that it can and will, also effect the snowmobile trails access and availability. This is very concerning especially since snowmobilers seasons are very limited. I know of a major stretch of trail in Iowa county that is closed during any type of the deer hunting season.
- 15735 We regularly see deer my the dozens at a time, sometimes upwards of 80 to 90 at a time. With the prevalence of CWD in Iowa county I think we need to focus more on harvesting more doe as a more effective method of removing breeding sock from the population to help drive the population down to more sustainable levels at much lower densities. I also advocate for the closure of all game (deer) farms. They spread and introduce disease and I think they are absolutely unnecessary while wasteful of both natural and agricultural landscapes. If you can't find a deer in SW Wisconsin then you should probably take up a new sport.
- 15736 If the Holiday Hunt is implemented, I intend to discontinue supporting the snowmobile trail through my property. Less is more -2017 was the least pressure ever on my well managed land and least satisfaction ever. Numbers way down. -Holiday Hunt causes significant neighborhood angst and not needed, especially if tied to a longer archery season after bucks shed their antlers and with crossbows.... It is statistically insignificant and not worth the effort, especially in light of the big picture of DNR/ landowner/hunter relationship. NEVER should bucks be considered part of a late season or HH.
- 15737 We have had the same number of harvests during the holiday hunt each year. Roughly 188 harvests. It's keeping hunters out of the woods that might be hunting bucks as well as does during that same time frame. Also ag tags that are filled should be included in the overall harvest number. In 2017 23 days were for gun hunting which is way more than needed. The 9 days of holiday hunt it keeps the bowhunters out of the woods that might still get the the 188 deer harvested just based in more numbers in the woods. I oppose the holiday hunt and we should maintain the population
- 15738 No Holiday Hunt ! Too many tags being offered ! Forget about CWD, or managing it, you're ruining deer hunting with the constant beating of your CWD drum. Now that it's quite obvious that CWD is not much of any threat to the deer population, you have decided to scare people with unsubstantiated human health concerns from CWD. Trying to propel ideological and political agenda with CWD will ruin deer hunting as we know it. We need to clean house in deer management staff in this state and get rid of the old school guard who keep lingering in the cracks and behind the scenes !
- 15739 I am a resident of Iowa county, and have been for over 3 years. Since moving here, I have been rather attentive to the white-tail population, and this winter has surprised me. The number of deer out and about, especially after season has been rather high. I've noticed deer hit on the roadside in abundance, even having my car hitting one. It is rather common for me to be driving home from work and see multiple herds of 60-100 along a single county road. Since there are little or no active predators of the white tail in Iowa county, I am in favor of increasing the quota.
- 15740 A county with a decrease population objective should provide all reasonable opportunities to work towards that objective. Iowa county DMU should have a holiday hunt and an extended archery season in 2018 to try to continue towards the decrease population objective. In 2017 the reported antlerless harvest was 2546 which included a holiday hunt and 2018 has an antlerless harvest quota of 4000 and no holiday hunt. I struggle to understand why the holiday hunt would be taken away. Consistency in seasons for a couple years would be nice too.



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- 15741 I would like to highly recommend that we close the early archery season to crossbows (except by permit or over 65). I feel that crossbows should be limited to gun and late archery season if permitted at all during an archery season (unless handicap or over 65). I also would not be opposed to bringing back earn-a-buck, it is the only way to effectively increase the antlerless harvest. More tags and Holiday hunts/antlerless only seasons are NOT effective. The only way to effectively do so is to force sportsmen to earn their buck.
- 15742 It's silly having just antlerless hunts. Give one buck tag for the antlerless hunt too. The problem is with most hunters is they don't take it seriously because they can't shoot a buck and don't even go. Where if they could shoot a buck most of them would end up killing a doe too or even just a doe because even though shooting a buck has made it more worth going, the opportunity to shoot a nice buck never presented itself while shooting a doe does. If you want to kill more doe during the holiday hunt, allow one buck tag too.
- 15743 Same old story from the Iowa County CDAC. You vote for decrease but you never give us all the available tools to achieve this goal. With the limited herd management tools available We will probably never shoot enough deer to decrease the population in significant ways but not giving us full use of all the tools is not right. It seems like our CDAC is working to undermine our herd reduction efforts preferring to focus on the short term rather than the long term herd health.
- 15744 Please reconsider having a December gun season that allows buck harvest if you have a buck tag. It doesn't make much sense not to have this season if you want to reduce the size of the herd. I'd even recommend having a changed season structure that would allow gun hunting during the rut, perhaps opening one week sooner than now and running for 2 weeks. Why do the bow hunters have exclusive rights to the rut when the majority of deer shot are with guns?
- 15745 I think people should manage their deer by letting young bucks walk and harvesting mature bucks. You also need to manage your doe population by shooting 1-2 doe for every buck you shoot. I care greatly about my herd of deer and try to do what I can to keep my population up and healthy. I'm all for hunting, however, it needs to be managed so that people can get out and enjoy the hunt and there be enough deer for the public to actually be able to hunt.
- 15746 Public lands and state parks should designate certain areas for small game hunting and bow hunting. It has been very unsafe in recent years jamming bow hunters and small game hunters into the same corner of a 5000 acre park. Either open up more of the park for bow hunting or separate the two hunters. It will not only be MUCH safer, but also improve the quality of hunting for both parties. Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts!
- 15747 The reason there should be a holiday hunt season is because it allows for more hunters to get out and harvest an antlerless deer. The bow hunters can begin in mid September to hunt whereas those who do not bow hunt don't get as many days or opportunities. So allowing them more chances to go out and hunt promotes getting hunters in the woods and working towards Iowa County's goals to decrease the population.
- 15748 If the goal is decrease, WHY would we not have a holiday hunt??? It appears, We are not meeting our antlerless quota as it is. This county CDAC should absolutely be paying close attention to CWD. Some folks who shoot a CWD positive deer..... or two.... may want the opportunity at harvesting a clean animal for meat consumption during a holiday hunt. Just another opportunity. What is this hurting?
- 15749 We need deer. The dnr and their auto insurance partners should not have a say in the deer population. It should be naturally populated and not influenced. If you need to regulate any population in southern wisconsin, it's the coyote population. But I'm sure there is a reason why that is increasing so rapidly. Take the money out of the equation and make a logical decisions please.



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- 15750 The amount of deer has dropped big time, we didn't even see a buck to harvest. My boy was very disappointed and my wife being it was her first year of hunting. The number of coyotes and bobcat are ridiculous. And I think we have a cougar running also. I am very concerned with the amount of predators running very the safety of my cows and calves.
- 15751 The goal for Iowa county should be to increase or maintain deer populations. There is obviously not enough deer to support the antlerless quota of recent years, not even close. The vast majority of hunters and landowners in Iowa county oppose the Holiday Hunt. CWD should not be a consideration when setting population goals in Iowa county.
- 15752 Need increase antlerless kill. Amount of non hunt able land makes it hard to keep deer numbers in check. Paying for extra antlerless tags for private land owners while deer populations continue to increase is detrimental in CWD areas. Quit changing hunting season structure. It frustrates people trying to keep up with rule changes.
- 15753 Our family LOVES the Holiday hunt----more opportunities for hunting, getting youngsters started in hunting--spending time as a family hunting. Why limit hunting opportunities? Have seen more deer/vehicle collisions in 2017/18 so far than any other time in the last 15 years. Still too many deer even with the Holiday hunt.
- 15754 Pretty hard to justify reducing antlerless harvest quota and eliminating holiday hunt when (1) your stated goal is population reduction, and (2) you have the highest incidence of CWD in the state, and likely anywhere in the country. Your preliminary recommendations do not align with reality.
- 15755 Shorten the crossbow season. Bring back deer registration. Lots of deer kills not being registered. Take away party hunting. There is enough tags and no reason to allow people to be able to use other people's tags for gun hunting parties. Deer drives are dangerous and unethical.
- 15756 I would hope at some point to get back to a traditional deer hunting season in Wisconsin. There are too many people taking advantage of all of the extra seasons, and it's ruined the traditional hunt for those of us that have never wavered or stopped hunting altogether.
- 15757 I think the crossbow season should be shortened. Crossbows are far more effective than compound bows. I think they shouldn't be allowed during the entire archery season, unless the hunter is disabled or elderly. I think a shortened crossbow season is more fair.
- 15758 I am in favor of the old "earn a buck" situation. I highly oppose adding gun or archery deer seasons. The season should not extend beyond Jan. 5th. Many buck deer are shed at this time and are not easy to identify as either a buck or a doe.
- 15759 If we need to kill deer, do not differentiate between public and private tags, keep group deer hunting legal as they will do it anyway, and consider earn a buck regulations for getting free additional more than 2 tags per license.
- 15760 I do not want any deer season with Iowa County for archer or gun season during December-January-February and March. This will affect snowmobile season and this snowmobile season will provide funds much more to the county.
- 15761 I believe antlerless quota should be "unlimited" which sends the message we are serious about reducing the herd in country affected by CWD. I realize the proposed quota is much higher than what is likely to be harvested.
- 15762 Given the exceptionally high buck to for harvest ratio by crossbow hunters I think it would be responsible management of our public resource to either close their season November 1st or make their license earn a buck.
- 15763 I do not support a Holiday hunt. We have to keep reducing the deer numbers to slow down CWD. EAB would be a good option since such a high percentage of the bucks test positive, we need to reduce the buck population.
- 15764 Happy there is no holiday hunt. Should not give 2 free tags per license, only 1. The CDAC decrease recommendation is wrong. Herd is about right so should maintain. CWD has had zero impact, it is like fake news!



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- 15765 I currently allow the snowmobile club to cross my property. I will not allow snowmobilers to cross my property until buck hunting in any matter is complete! I am not the only landowner that feels this way.
- 15766 Contrary to our governor's opinion, I think SCIENCE should be the most important factor that informs CDAC recommendations and decisions. Gigantic thanks to the underappreciated staff at our DNR.
- 15767 Since overall hunting numbers are trending downward I would not support reducing the length of the crossbow season. Please continue to keep the cross bow season as long as the archery season.
- 15768 There is a CWD issue and you are not taking advantage of all tools to harvest deer by use of holiday hunt and extended archery seasons. Have to also get more deer tested each year.
- 15769 The Iowa CDAC did a nice job and I strongly support all of their recommendations for 2018, especially no Holiday Hunt and trying to reduce the herd to slow down CWD. Great Job.
- 15770 non residents should have to pay the same that we would have to pay to hunt in their state my oppinion we are giving our natural resources away compared to other states.
- 15771 Bring back earn a buck. I believe that was an effective way of helping control deer numbers. At least every four years or so. Also raise out of state tag rates
- 15772 I would like to see the return of advanced earn a buck. I have also heard about the idea of paying for positive CWD deer and think that is a great idea.
- 15773 Please renewthe holiday hunt. I cannot get off work for the regular season and enjoy hunting in December when nobody else is out there.
- 15774 NO HOLIDAY HUNT OR EXTENDED ARCHERY OR CROSSBOW HUNTS NO BUCKS BY GUN AFTER TRADITIONSL NOVEMBER AND DEC MUZZLELOADER SEASONS....
- 15775 I am against a holiday hunt because if the snowmobile trails are open mixing the hunters with snowmobiles could be disastrous.
- 15776 Please either make a early or late Muzzleloader season instead of having it the day after the regular 9 day hunt.
- 15777 The crossbow season needs to change to coincide wit the gun season Its like using a shotgun or better
- 15778 I believe CDAC is going a good job with the tools they are given!!!!
- 15779 I strongly oppose the holiday hunt. Deer numbers are already down
- 15780 Strongly support Holiday Hunt in 2018/19
- 15781 Not concerned about cwd.
- 15782 Need more deer
- 18033



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Iron, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

102 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 61
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
I hunt in this unit: 89
General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 86
Bow: 45
Crossbow: 31
Muzzleloader: 41

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 26.38
Maximum: 65

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 21
Mostly Private Land: 18
Public and Private Land About Equally: 26
Mostly Public Land: 14
Exclusively Public Land: 9
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 11
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 14
Somewhat crowded: 12
Very crowded: 28
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 12
Fewer: 21
Same: 34
More: 26
Many More: 9
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	5	8	13	15	60	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	6	10	17	64	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	9	11	13	64	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...			
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	44	56	2

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.27
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.78
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.10
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.48
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.09
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.75
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.10
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.45
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.40
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.38



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Comments for Iron, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15783 The deer harvest in Iron county has consistently been one of the worst in the entire state of Wisconsin. Iron county is the 35th largest county in Wisconsin yet the deer harvest and estimated deer population has been almost dead last. If you compare deer harvest per area it is likely dead last. The only Counties to harvest less deer are the metro counties of Eau Claire, Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha. To issue over 800 antlerless deer tags for this deer management unit next year is ridiculous. The 2016 Fall deer population estimate for Iron county was only 4,400. If hunters take the average 450 bucks and harvest 400 of the 800 antlerless that is almost 20% of the estimated deer herd. I have not lived in Wisconsin for 20 years however I still return each year to hunt with my father and brother. I pay \$160 each year for the non resident gun deer liscence not to mention the airfare, car rental and supplies I purchase. I have not harvested a deer in Iron county since 2004 and that was the last deer taken by any person in my hunting party. I have seen at best 5 deer in the past decade and most years we see none. If the deer population does not improve I will no longer be spending my time and money in Wisconsin. I can stay in Virginia where I see and harvest deer every year. While tough winters and predation by wolves have likely impacted this area hard I can accept these issues. I firmly believe that the years of almost unlimited bonus antlerless tags in the early 2000s had a far greater impact than any winter kill or predation. I hope this unit remains buck only for at least several more years!

15784 I have hunted the area just North of Mercer for 63 years. During the 70s, 80s and into the 90s, we used to see a good number of deer. Even though we may not have filled our tag, we would at least see deer and also have the excitement of knowing there were bucks around. While we never took antlerless deer we got a number of bucks, or at least saw buck sign such as rubs and scrapes. During the winter while snowmobiling this area, we would see signs of a healthy deer herd. Since the introduction of wolves and the prevalent baiting practices of today's so called deer hunters, we have seen a steady decline in the deer population with few to no deer seen in the past 15 or so seasons. I feel strongly that baiting is unethical and should be outlawed. Most studies have shown that baiting is harmful to the deer, especially as the deer go into the winter. I cannot understand why it is still allowed. Last season, we saw only one deer out of our camp. The year before, we saw three. These are typical results for the last 10 to 15 years. The wolves have not helped the situation either. We never see any scrapes or rubs anymore. And now we want to go back to a doe harvest with bonus tags with an already non-existent deer herd. The day of the big bucks and hunting without bait are long gone. Will our children and grandchildren ever know anything else?

15785 While there aren't "way too many" deer (like in the 1990s/2000s), the numbers are higher than they should be in my area. Having a high deer population density leads to a lot of conflict (higher wolf/bear populations, over-browsing/forest damage, increased tick numbers and related disease, more vehicle collisions, etc.). Having too low of a deer population leads to conflict with hunters, reduced tourism income, [misplaced] hostility against the DNR, etc. The difficult thing is finding the balance. The biologists should be entrusted to provide guidance about optimal deer densities for balancing the different concerns. If the biologists don't have the right kinds of information, then funding MUST be allocated to get the information that we need to make good decisions. One thing I would recommend that I haven't seen on any of the forms is to eliminate the feeding of deer. This activity dramatically distorts the distribution of deer, causing them to prefer private land over public (since most feeding operations are conducted on private land). Baiting is a similar problem. I dislike telling other people what they can and can't do, but if a neighbor half a mile away is feeding the deer, then the deer spend more time on my property no matter what I do to drive them away.



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- 15786 The winter was long with snow starting around the 2017 firearm season with little or no warm thaws over the winter. Normally I see deer returning in March but with the excessive snow depth still over 18" on the ground in the woods with more forecasted this weekend, I've seen no deer returning to my area in Northern Iron County. The area close to Lake Superior which typically winters area deer that migrate here for the winter has very few deer. We cannot Alford to take steps backwards by issuing Anterless tags. The deer herd has improved every year over the last couple years by not having an anterless quota. The DNR issued way to many anterless tags in our area in the past which had a severe impact on our deer herd. Don't make the same mistake again and learn from your mistakes. We have enough predators along with hunting that keeps the herd healthy. The DNR should also look at using drones to fly over winter areas and do deer counts. The numbers of about 10 deer per square mile that's in your deer metrix is not close to the actual number in Northern Iron County. I hope you actually take the thoughts of mine and other hunters in account when managing our deer herd for the future generation of hunters.
- 15787 To anyone who will listen... After the winter of 2015 and 2016 we had a small increase in the number of deer encounters on my property and surrounding state, county and township lands in Mercer, Oma and Sherman townships. Deer encounters on my 40 acres plus surrounding 320 acres of state land near Wilson lake included over 9 months (April- Dec) of pictures on 6 trail cams, 4 days of hunting, two weeks of summer vacation and 16 weekends... I saw basically the same 4 does, 3 fawns (1 button, 2 doe) and 3 bucks (1 spike, 1 small 6 and a nice 8) multiple items. I did encounter zero wolves, 1 adult black bear and 2 cubs, 1 bobcat. I'm not aware of any car kills and at this time with 2 feet of snow still on the ground I have not yet encountered dead deer. From conversations I believe my observation are similar to my local Wilson lake neighbors. Based on this I think we need another 2 years of antlerless tags in my area. Any chance we can attend the county meetings virtually via skype or webex or public access? Thank you, Ron Tremmel 414-704-7620
- 15788 Deer hunting in Iron County has been on a huge decrease within the last 10 years. Looking within Iron County on the type of bucks killed people are shooting too many young bucks. I highly suggest a rack limit for 5 years along with keeping no doe tags. Hunters will start to see bigger bucks and an increase in population. Its not just the hunters. There is an increase in predator action also. Between the wolves and coyotes. Another big impact is the bear population increasing also which is not helping. I hope to see a great change within Iron county for whitetail hunting. The economy is hurting in the area and deer season use to bring so many people back to the area to hunt or visit. Now with the decreased population hunters dont go home anymore or dont spend the money to not see anything. I hunt in Saxon,WI people use to go around and see multiple of deer in the fields and it was common for many big bucks to be shot. Recently going around looking in fields you are lucky to see a deer. Thank you.
- 15789 I believe that allowing the antlerless deer tags for Iron county is a huge mistake. I've hunted in northern Iron county for the past 10 years and every year it is getting worse for deer numbers (Bucks and Doe's). I live 5 miles from Lake Superior, close to where a lot of deer usually yard during the winter time. This year it is probably one the worse I have seen for numbers of deer that have almost made through the winter. Back 8-10 years ago you could drive down to the lake and count 50 to 100 deer in a short time in the winter months. Now you will be lucky if you see 9 or 10. Granted we had two mild winters in 2016-2017 but this year we had a normal winter in my opinion. I've seen the winter take its toll on the deer, as myself and other locals have found winter kill throughout the past couple months. We need numbers right now before we can even think about harvesting antlerless deer. Go another 3-4 years with bucks only and go from there.



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- 15790 I don't believe the county average of 10 deer per square mile reflects the actual numbers in the northern part of Iron County. Most of the hunters and outdoorsmen that I talked to see and increase in deer from the previous years. They all agree that we need stronger deer populations in the northern part of the county before we issue antlerless quota. All of the deer in my area migrate to the Lake Superior shoreline for the winter months (December thru April). We had a much higher Winter Severity Index than what was given to us by the DNR in the March meetings. They are very few deer in the winter grounds this year. If we want hunters to see more mature bucks during the hunting seasons, we need to put a 4 pt restriction on one side to be able to harvest a buck. The county needs to be proactive instead of reactive when it comes to CWD in Iron County. We need more testing done to monitor and keep our deer herd healthy.
- 15791 I spend 45-50 days, (some mornings, some evenings), hunting central Iron County and Northern Iron County. I also work full time in the woods. We are absolutely not ready for an increase in antlerless harvest in either area. I would recommend a zero quota. There are virtually no does in central Iron County. The couple deer you'll see all fall will be immature bucks, traveling unusually far during the rut, because there aren't does. I've got trail camera proof of this across 4 sections I hunt. The amount of bear, bobcat, and coyote sign is unreal. Fawn mortality has to be at an all time high. Again, I strongly encourage you to stick to the "0" quota that has been in place for good reason. Change doesn't happen in a couple years. We are still a long ways from a healthy herd. Thank you
- 15792 As most know this unit isn't equal in its deer distribution. The center part of this unit is primarily forest with low deer numbers. No antlerless harvest should occur in this part, but could occur in areas closer to Hurley and Saxon. It's frustrating when antlerless deer are harvested via the youth hunt, when we are trying to recover deer in this unit. No youth tags should be allowed if the antlerless quota is Zero, unless again they are taken from areas closer to the limited agriculture and urban settings. What needs to happen is we need to up the quota for bear tags in Iron Co. Recruitment into this population needs to be enhanced. 2017 was the first pair of fawns I've had on my game cameras since 2010, and in most years since 2010 I've had more bear on my cameras than deer.
- 15793 I do not think the antlerless population in this area has recovered enough to allow this many tags, especially not the proposed number of bonus tags. It takes an average of 10 years to receive tags for bear and bobcat which are 2 of the biggest fawn predators. The unchecked bear, bobcat, coyote and wolf populations continue to increase over the years while the deer population does not. I have hunted this area for 20 years and there is no doubt the decrease in deer has coincided with the increase in wolves here. We have also had a hard winter this year, extreme cold and deep snow well into what would be the average melting time. This long cold period and minimal food supply will have a negative impact on unborn fawns as well as the weakened birthing does.
- 15794 Iron County is in the snowbelt. We can't have bad winters and predators both. 1. Predators need to be controlled. 2. We can't control the weather, so supplemental feeding is extremely important. This needs the 2 gallon limit waived after the last deer season, or by Jan. 1, until spring. Also need to stop bow hunting during gun deer. What were you people thinking--biggest bucks getting shot quietly in the dark. Violators dream come true. Also NO hunting during the week previous to gun deer AND bring back physical registration. Iron County needs the economic boost from gun deer season, and this has been nearly eliminated, Thanks to all of the above.
- 15795 After declining numbers for the past 10 years, last year we finally saw "some" deer in 2017. The local economy has suffered greatly due to the lack of interest on behalf of the hunter and wasted time out in the woods. Iron County used to have a great influx of hunters, now you're lucky to see even a few cars/trucks in the back roads. Local bars do not even hold "Buck Pools" anymore. Let us please let the deer herd recover. No one should be able to shoot "does" in Iron County. Perhaps, we should increase the availability of bear tags. Why does one have to wait as long as 9 years before you can harvest a bear? I have more bear on camera than I do deer!



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- 15796 I have seen the same number of deer the past two seasons, zero. Our hunting camp has been hunting in Iron County for over 50 years. Eliminating baiting would be very beneficial for the health of the heard and quality hunting. Baiting has had a negative impact on hunting in this county. Based on the number of deer our camp has seen, we highly discourage having any antlerless tags for the next few years. With heavy snowfall this season and the number of wolves in our area, the population cannot be growing. As of this past weekend there was still approximately 24 inches of snow on the ground with more expected. Please take this into consideration.
- 15797 I have hunted in Iron County for all of my life, and hunted deer for the past 7 years. I was informed that there will be 300 antlerless tags given out in 2018 season, because there was a slight increase in deer population. There was an increase due to the fact that last season there was no antlerless tags given out. We need to have 1 to 2 more antlerless seasons for the deer population to maintain itself. If we have antlerless tags again this soon, we will be right back where we started with seeing 1 deer a day all season. I hope you take this into consideration and take away the antlerless tags for the next couple of years. Thankyou.
- 15798 The 'zero antlerless quota' of the past couple years was a step in the right direction, however it needs to be taken further. We still have children, vets, and disabled hunters harvesting antlerless. Cruel as it sounds, (I respect and support them all), NO ONE should be harvesting antlerless deer in this county. Period. We still aren't ready for it. Whether myself, a member of my hunting party, a veteran, a disabled person, or a child kills a doe. It is still dead. You still killed 3 deer (statistically speaking that doe was having two fawns in the spring). I would strongly support a REAL, 'zero antlerless quota'. Please consider!
- 15799 During time spent at our cabin in the woods more deer were seen in 2017 than in 2016. More doe were seen during deer season in 2017 as well. We saw little sign of increased numbers on the public land in the deer lake area. The heavy snow this endless, continuing winter will have a negative effect that will not be apparent for months. Snowshoeing was difficult even with the older long wooden shoes. Deer trails were showing that the snow was to the deers chests. Without this past severe winter I would have been okay with a moderate number of doe permits. I think the conservative number of 300 is appropriate as a total number.
- 15800 I've hunted in this unit for about 20 years. The buck only hunt I think is finally starting to make a difference in the deer population. I strongly support a buck only hunt again for Iron County. We are having a long and difficult winter in this unit. My educated guess is the WSI will be severe or at least close to it. Please don't let the unit go backwards by allowing antlerless deer to be harvested, especially 300+ as your proposal suggests. That is not prudent considering the deer numbers and the severity of the winter. As a land owner, I support a BUCK ONLY season.
- 15801 We don't have the deer numbers that the DNR says we have. Absolutely no doe tags should be issued. Our winter has been very hard on the deer we have and the month of April is not off to a mild month. The northern part of Iron County has very few deer on the wooded public land. The agricultural area has more deer around because of the corn and Alfalfa fields. These deer travel for miles in fall to feed in these areas. We need a 4 pt restriction to allow our 1 1/2 year old bucks to have a chance to grow and have a chance to make it into a mature 2-5 year old.
- 15802 Unfortunately, it is my opinion that the recent changes in the deer hunting regulations concerning carcass tags/registration and back tags has led to a increase in the illegal taking of deer including multiple kills by a single hunter. The believe the new norm is "free-for-all". The attitude appears to be that no one checks so what's the difference whether I register or not. Wisconsin will never again have an accurate deer kill count. Antlerless tags do damage both ways, reduces the breeding population and removes future antlered bucks from harvest.



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- 15803 I think we should return to the long tested and scientifically valid registration and aging of deer from the past when all deer had to be registered in person and a percentage were aged by qualified wildlife staff. The current registration system makes it very hard to determine accuracy in population estimates. I also think we need to increase regulations on deer farms. CWD threatens the wild deer population and these few businesses (deer farms) jeopardize an entire tourism economy based on deer hunting for wild deer.
- 15804 I'm sure the CDAC will receive negative feedback regarding their decision. However, they need to continue to use data, not a persons anecdotal reasoning from their 40 they hunt; people have short-term memory. If Iron County wants to have good hunting, bigger bucks, and get even better data, it needs to harvest does. Bad winters take deer. Bad winters take even more deer if you send them into winter in poor condition. That's what happens when we have too many deer. Use your heads, not bar talk.
- 15805 I feel Iron County should not allow antlerless permits for at least several years. Our deer herds are still low. The DNR Say that there are 10 deer per square mile, I don't believe that is true. We run a beef farm and are outdoors all through the year and the deer are not in high numbers. I feel we need to keep the hunting seasons as bucks only. I also feel that we should have a 4 point buck restriction. This way we are letting our young ones grow and ensure growth and maturity in our herds.
- 15806 The Iron County deer heard cannot handle losses from wolves AND afford antlerless tags! NO antlerless tags until the wolf population is reduced in Wisconsin AND Michigan, because Iron County is affected by nonmanagemen of wolves in the U.P. Iron County should have ONE buck only with a choice of gun or bow. ONE ONLY. Iron County is in the snowbelt region and the DNR should lift supplemental feeding restrictions after the last deer hunting season, which should end at the end of the year.
- 15807 As with all counties the pockets of deer are spotty which is dictated by predators and food source. If you are looking at only 300 deer as a quota then you are telling me we are too close to goal to take a chance at falling below population goals. With the extended winter we are having here in 2018 and not knowing what the winter of 2019 will do I feel no antlerless tags should be given. These northern counties can be affected too fast by Mother Nature compared to other parts of the state.
- 15808 I have a camp in central Iron county and have hunted this area for 51 years. I have seen good years and bad years as far as deer hunting goes. The deer numbers that I have seen have been in steady decline for at least 10 years, to a point where I am surprised to see 1 or 2 deer the entire gun season and have not seen a buck in 5 years. In 2017 I sat on stand for gun, muzzle loader and late bow and saw a total of 7 deer in over 150 Hrs. of sitting. NOT GOOD !
- 15809 Please consider having no antlerless permits. There is already a lack of interest in our youth to go hunting. We need future generations to continue in the conservation of our ecosystem. I have school age children that have a passion for hunting, but no interest due to lack of numbers in our herd. We seen one buck on Thursday of rifle season. I give them credit for not harvesting the deer because it was too small. Very disheartening. Thanks for allowing the input.
- 15810 In all respects for our deer population very small, locals (farmers in iron, Gurney Wisconsin seem to think they have open season on all deer no matter ruled given, I would like to see more astringent properties [not given] deer damage tags, although I have concerns with deer and bear they are feeling they adapt there own rules , we the rule of law abiding citizen properties Owens fall to the side. Concerning to me.
- 15811 Lets try to get the numbers of deer back like they were in the late 90's and early 2000's. I own property in Iron County. I spend countless hours in the woods. I never see deer just browsing. I talk to loggers and they hardly ever see deer. Too many wolves and Beer in my opinion. Sit all day and see 2 deer is the reason we have no kids wanting to hunt. It's boring for them and me. Don Hall Chippewa Fire Lane



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- 15812 I believe that the northern forest unit, in particular Iron County, should have a 0 quota for antlerless tags. In addition, the northern unit would greatly benefit from a restriction on the size of a buck being harvested, much like the state of Michigan does with the "4 points or more per side" rule. There are far to many smaller bucks being harvested and those bucks never have the chance to become mature bucks.
- 15813 I do not agree with the proposed antlerless tag numbers because the deer numbers are still way down compared to where they were 10 years ago. This totally goes against the idea of increasing the deer herd. Why would you have more doe tags to increase the herd?? Since the reintroduction of wolves I've seen the deer population decline. Until something is done about that our deer population will never improve.
- 15814 Forests are unable to regenerate many of our commercial species in areas because of high deer numbers. Deer browse is at nuisance levels in most timber types, especially near towns. Give us the opportunity to reduce those numbers. I didn't want to see a harvest until we had a high enough population. The minutes from the meeting state we do. It's time to get the ball rolling. More antlerless tags
- 15815 Please take steps to address CWD in this state. It is obvious the current leadership outside the DNR has no interest in addressing the obvious increase in CWD occurrences and further spreading to the northern part of the state. This will become a significant problem if not addressed (my opinion), and it is time for leadership to take steps to reduce CWD and stop ignoring the science.
- 15816 We need at least one more year in Iron county without Antlerless tags. There still isn't many deer up there. DNR people who are behind all of this should spend a few weeks up there studying the heard. The numbers you guys think that are there are a joke. It's bad. The deer are somewhat starting to rebound but definitely not enough to shoot does again. Give it another year or two.
- 15817 Winter for 2017-2018 has been long and will stress deer populations. Bears and wolves are still going to be a problem as well as other predators on fawn production. CWD may not be a problem in Iron county now, but it is present in nearby counties and is only a matter of time in this county. Baiting is going to account for that- abnormal game patterns, and overbaiting.
- 15818 Very disappointed on the number of anterless permits being proposed. The council wants to grow the population. You do not grow the population by shooting does. At the present time the only tool we have to grow the population is not shooting does. The decision smells of DNR influence. In addition this winter is hanging on and will have a impact. Very disappointed.
- 15819 Trying to sustain a tradition passed on to me, unlimited doe tags of the past in conjunction to previous wolf population contributed to the reduced numbers - limiting to one deer could be an alternative - either or. Concerning when I hear from many friends/relatives - that they stopped participating in the hunt... not sure if they'd return.
- 15820 The numbers you propose for antlerless tags are way too high. Based upon what I see and the harvest numbers, the deer herd is making a comeback. I don't want this to go backwards. We are also having a long winter, with no green up in sight. The WSI will probably be very high this year. I would support another year of a buck only hunt.
- 15821 I would like to see buck only in Iron County. 300 antlerless is WAY too many. The locals try not to take antlerless deer whereas people who live outside of the county have no concern about our deer population and kill antlerless unnecessarily because they don't want to go back to Milwaukee empty handed. BUCKS ONLY !!!!
- 15822 Delist wolves now. Since they have been protected the population has decreased to almost nothing. Wisconsin should also give landowners who are protecting and increasing wildlife habitat the ability to hunt the same preferences as residents (who may drive up from Milwaukee to hunt public land).



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- 15823 I think the overall length of this winter eliminated any possibility of antlerless tags. Also to give out 850 plus the youth hunt will be a mistake. You will blow right by the 300 quota you want. Also you should have an actual forester being represented from the area, not someone isn't.
- 15824 Hunters choice, all hunters are issued one tag for either sex deer for both gun and bow. No doe harvest for youth hunt. No bonus tags, No public/private land tags, No extra tag issued with your license one tag good for either sex deer on either public or private land.
- 15825 The quota should be based on the best available science and should take into consideration long-term population trends, not just the most recent decade. We don't need a deer behind every tree in order to satisfy hunters who aren't willing to walk more than 100 yards.
- 15826 There are quite a few wolves in the area where I hunt, along with coyote. Predators probably take as many deer as humans. Therefore I think we should continue as buck only until the population reaches levels similar to the 1990s.
- 15827 as of april 10th I have no deer back on the property , winter has been especially long don't know the severity rate but plenty of snow in the woods yet has not been good for the deer should rethink the doe tag scenario
- 15828 I think there should also be a 4 point rule. Meaning at least 4 points on one side. The only hunters that should be allowed to shoot any buck would be junior hunters. We need to increase the trophy buck population.
- 15829 I hunted 7 days during rifle season- saw wolves every day on my property! at one point I had 3 in my food plot at 1 time! we must control the wolves, often my trail cams show more wolves than deer.
- 15830 We are seeing sign the deer are coming back but have a long way to go in order to have any doe harvested in this county. Our forest are void of deer. In and around towns have a few deer!
- 15831 Need doe permits, too many around are overeating all browse. no bucks ever make it past first year with being shot for meat. also need to allow kids to continue to harvest does.
- 15832 The Dnr is Very stupid stupid stupid if they want doe tags Just stupid. Very so severe in Iron County. You guys are nuts for killing does. Too many bears eating fawns
- 15833 Way too many does around, antler only is not working. No bucks around all getting shot when spikes and forks. Need doe tags especially on private property
- 15834 Buck only for at least 5 years. Let the youth hunts continue with antlerless tags. If they don't see or shoot a deer they are going to lose interest.
- 15835 I would like to see point restrictions on bucks shot. Last season near my property, just about every 1/1/2 of buck was shot because of no doe tags.
- 15836 I am tired of the (Trophy) hunters never wanting to harvest antlerless deer. Some of us actually appreciate being able to harvest for the meat.
- 15837 We can't afford to lose any more deer. The deer heard is hurting as it is. Maybe consider a size or point minimum on bucks for a year or 3??
- 15838 I would like to see the public and private tags split evenly. Deer are all publicly owned therefore should be equal in where we harvest.
- 15839 We need to decrease the predator (wolf and bear) population in this area and there are not enough deer to support an antlerless hunt!
- 15840 There should be 4 point restriction on one side to increase buck population. Bucks in the area are all small (spikes and forks).
- 15841 DONT ruin deer hunting in wis.ask the people who are in the woods what they see! don't let Madison decide!!!!!!



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15842 I have spoken to dozens of local hunters, and all oppose any antlerless permits for the foreseeable future.

15843 Still in dire need on wolf control, the iron county antlerless heard needs Atleast one more season to grow.

15844 There is still not the deer numbers in this area we still need to protect the does and young bucks

15845 I think winter mortality will be much higher this year than previous years.

15846 Our deer herd in southern iron county has not increased in the last 3 yrs..

15847 kill bucks only.noanterless at all. 300 is totally insane. thank tyou.

15848 There should be absolutely no antlerless harvesting in Iron County!!!

15849 way to many predators in our county

15850 Needs better large predator control

18034



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Jackson, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

43 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 18
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
I hunt in this unit: 39
General interest in this unit: 7

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 35
Bow: 28
Crossbow: 16
Muzzleloader: 14

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 21.77
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 29
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 4
Fewer: 14
Same: 18
More: 5
Many More: 2
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	5	18	11	6	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	4	18	12	8	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	5	32	0	0	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	4	27	12	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	6	33	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	10	29	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	35	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.30
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.91
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.40
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.40
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.30
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.19
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.30
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.47
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.88
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.12
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.44



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Comments for Jackson, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 15851 I believe the use of crossbows to be an excellent achievement from the DNR over the past couple of years, I have non resident hunters that hunt with us and have stopped hunting in their own states because of their ability to hunt with a crossbow here in our state, also the number of young hunters being able to be successful in the field with the proper education and use of a crossbow nothing is more rewarding than an ear to ear smile on the face of a 10 year old who would have never been able to pull a 35lb bow back and harvest his first buck with a crossbow, never mind the number of deer being harvested and tagged versus the number of wounded animals shot and not recovered with compound bows, I have heard multiple stories of grown men and women losing 2-3 deer before finding one, those lost deer never become part of the game management numbers, with a proper rest a crossbow can be an extremely accurate tool to both the new and seasoned hunters, I am 53 years old and have bought an archery license since the age of 12 and would quit bowhunting if not allowed to use a crossbow any more, it's like my muzzleloader more fun than a rifle
- 15852 I have been hunting on my family's property in the township of Garden Valley in Northern Jackson County since 1992. During the early 90's we had to apply for hunters choice permits if we wanted to harvest a doe. In 1997 I believe they started issuing 3 antlerless tags with every license. Truck loads of deer were going to the registration stations and the meat locker. That winter was very severe with thigh deep snow by Christmas. The deer population in that area has never rebounded. We see wolves and black bears constantly. Deer numbers have gone up and down but it seems like we see the same few deer all season with the occasional excitement of seeing a group of 5. Now there are being elk introduced? It doesn't make much sense to me. We are far below the carrying capacity of our land. You can drive for miles and not see deer in the evenings. I would love to see the old way come back. Hunters choice permits. Thank You Craig Every
- 15853 As with most areas, there is an importance placed on antler hunters. The television mentality seems to pervade hunting in general. For new hunters, this expectation, that there is a "lifetime" buck behind every tree is a disappointment. I think an effort to educate new, and even some older hunters in the use of the meat harvested and the overall outdoor experience, rather than trophy hunting would be well advised. As it stands, for hunters like me, our red meat supply for the year is 2 deer, either gun, bow, or in combination. I do see hunters who have the opinion that if you give them 10 tags, they will kill 10 deer, with no idea of what to do with them. I see a lot of meat wasted, and in some instances, have seen an entire deer wrapped and labeled, thrown into a dumpster. We have lost or never had a true value of this incredible resource.
- 15854 Too many deer on the west side. Should be getting two free antlerless tags per license. I'd like to see a holiday hunt. Heck bring back earn a buck for a year or two if need be. That was the only tool in the toolbox that DNR could use to try and get hunters to harvest more antlerless deer. Too many hunters concerned with counting "inches of antler" rather than counting pounds of meat in the freezer. Has taken the fun factor out of deer hunting. I hunt because it's a tradition and a chance to spend precious time with family and friends and because I like to eat venison. Antlers are a bonus.....not the primary objective.
- 15855 Statewide there needs to be a point restriction for antlered deer. Missouri does this and the size of their deer herd and antlered deer isn't even comparable to Wisconsin's. Antlerless seasons have not been helping the population. Most hunters in state go hunting to see deer and fill their freezer. Out of state hunters come to the state to harvest mature animals. Increase in deer numbers and the size of antlered deer will increase the amount of hunters in the state and also the amount of money that is put towards conservation.



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- 15856 Deer hunting and management are very important to me. My biggest concern is the spread of CWD in wild deer throughout the state. More needs to be done to reduce the spread of this disease. I believe a state-wide ban on baiting needs to be implemented, and enforced, to curb the spread of CWD. I completely understand peoples desires to see more deer and increase hunters success. But, if we are too lax on this disease we will lose out on one of our states great social and economic past times.
- 15857 Eight family members hunt south of Hixton on 300 acres. We have owned some of this acreage for 40 years. We did not kill a deer last year for the first time in 40 years. We hunt during the bow and gun seasons. We could have killed a doe or two, but everyone took a pass because of the low number of deer sightings. My two 13 year-old granddaughters will soon give up the hunt if the number of deer sightings does not increase. Decrease the number of antlerless tags.
- 15858 Population is just starting to come back. I have a son that is 25, he saw his first buck in the woods last year. We need to get the population back to ensure young people continue to have interest. Once the deer population is back to normal, the local merchants will see \$\$\$ come back to them, but adding doe permits in 2018 for example only helps them this year and hurts the future of hunting in general.
- 15859 I believe we should encourage party hunting in the State of Wisconsin. I heard rumors of not allowing it and am very disappointed in this. Party hunting has been a tradition for the past 50 years for me and some of us hunt for the chance to work together not necessarily to get the largest rack. I would rather see a child have a chance to hunt with his family than to limit the party hunting in any way.
- 15860 I wish the free antlerless tags could be made valid on private land only, then the CDAC could have a limited quota provided for the public land. That way the antlerless harvest on public land would actually be limited. I would be ok with a year of an antlerless only season. It would really open people's eyes to the type of bucks our area is capable of producing.
- 15861 I feel there is enough deer in our area. If you ask people what they saw during gun season, it is less then whats really there. Warmer weather ,less action during the gun hunt. I like to have enough doe tags to keep does in check. The two dollar tags were more in line of affordability then twelve dollar tags.
- 15862 Western Jackson county should consider a deer management strategy in which only mature bucks are harvested. This will increase the buck age structure and assist in getting the buck to doe ratio to a more natural level - ultimately leading to a healthier herd as long as doe harvest continues as well.
- 15863 Increase the bobcat quota. Continue to provide us the opportunity to easily turn in deer heads for CWD testing. Decrease the bear population. Allow foot snares. Restrict the crossbow season. They are shooting too many deer. Advertise the CDAC meetings more.
- 15864 There are not enough deer for everyone to receive 1 doe tag per license. People are filling their doe tags and complaining they don't see many deer. I will take a doe on occasion, but I am the type of hunter that doesn't measure success on filling tags.
- 15865 I would like to see the population a little higher. It is more fun when you see more deer. People will be less likely to want to hunt in the future if they don't see as many deer. It would be sad if the long hunting tradition in WI were to disappear.
- 15866 I have been seeing a lot of does on both sides of Hy. 27 south, don't understand why we have to go to the west side of hy. 27 to hunt does, there seems to be a good numbers of does on both side of the hy.27 as of the last two years.
- 15867 Oppose extending deer hunts into January. Hard enough to maintain snowmobile trails on private lands, don't need longer deer seasons to cut into that. Lots more money made with snowmobile trails open than a few people hunting later.



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15868 Consider shooting bucks with at least 4 points on a side. Let the bucks get a chance to mature. More people want a trophy buck and will shoot a doe if wanting venison.

15869 With the nearby CWD hit, the baiting and feeding ban should be kept. CWD sampling should be highly encouraged in all of Jackson county.

15870 Please do not change the structure of the bow/crossbow season as is asked at the conservation congress hearings coming up.

18035



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Jackson, Central Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

61 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 9
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 13
I hunt in this unit: 59
General interest in this unit: 8

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 56
Bow: 31
Crossbow: 19
Muzzleloader: 25

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 25.29
Maximum: 59

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 15
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 8
Exclusively Public Land: 20
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 10
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 11
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 15
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 5
Fewer: 17
Same: 28
More: 6
Many More: 5
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	5	12	22	9	12	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	10	15	12	13	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	6	13	16	18	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	30	30	1

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.58
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.59
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.29
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.47
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.39
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.32
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.03
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.15
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.63
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.42
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.37



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Jackson, Central Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

15871 I work for a real estate firm that specializes in selling hunting and farm land. I can tell you that the value in any deer hunting property comes from the general deer population in the area and the size of buck being harvested. Those two factors are the primary reason of what a property will sell for. Eastern Jackson County is a shell of what it once was. The bars in the area have a fraction of the business they once had, campgrounds and hotels the same. The real estate values have plummeted all for one reason. The deer herd has plummeted for various reasons and now cannot recover because of the every increasing wolf packs, bear and other predators. Landowners are getting shafted big time as few hunting land prospects want to buy in an area with no deer. That is what the once great hunting area has become. a ghost town. Many fewer public hunters as well. DNR had the chance to really reduce wolf numbers but failed miserably when they had the chance. Same with bear tags, bobcat and all other predators. Predators will keep this once great hunting area from every being what it once was. Tags that once gave hunters hope are no longer and we are simply feeding the predators and leaving nothing for the hunters who pay the bills. Now, the area businesses close down and landowners take ridiculous offers just to get rid of unwanted land. I have an 800 acre piece listed in Bear Bluff for \$400/acre and you can walk that piece anytime and you'll maybe find a couple of fresh tracks. Big tamarac and spruce swamp. If that parcel were teaming with deer it would sell for twice that number and would have moved long ago. When land values plummet, so do the transfer taxes on sale of which counties receive 20%. In closing, hunters foot the bills. Hunters will hunt where there are deer. Hunters are no longer hunting the great Jackson County forests like they had when there was a healthy deer population. The businesses have suffered because of it. Landowners received far less money upon sale assuming they can afford to sell at depressed prices. All and all it is depressing what the predators have done to the deer and deer hunting in the area. Rather than offer antlerless tags for deer, why don't we offer many more predator tags! This rant is directed to the DNR officials who might be reading these comments and it is not intended to insult the work of the CDAC committees as your hands are tied. DNR, you hold the keys to the deer populations by controlling the predator populations. Do something about it before we lose the hunter base! Thanks for listening

15872 I am extremely frustrated with certain areas within this DMU that are horribly managed due to agricultural permits. I am a land-owner since 1986 near Melrose WI and our deer population has be DEVASTED due to over harvest by Amish residents and issuance of far to many agricultural harvest tags. From personal experience I know that the current phone registration etc. cannot be effective since Amish folk do not have phones! I also have seen our deer population reduced from 1990 levels of 40 deer per square mile to my guess today of 5. This has created a scenario where with 80 acres of land (6) hunters have seen 0 deer in last two seasons during gun season on opening day. The following day maybe 6. I hunt to see wildlife and the excitement. To hunt an not see any deer is not only frustrating, it drives hunters away from the woods and no license sales. We do not see deer in spring fields anymore - scarce sightings. Please include this agricultural influence in your thoughts as they are microcosms within the county. Amish folk will suffer more AG damage because they do not harvest their crops appropriately (and late). Result --- deer damage claim. I would support harvest of at MOST (5) deer per HOUSEHOLD per year due to AG damage. Shooting at deer year round in fields can somewhat explain the behavior of deer nearby. Having a large number of permits makes no sense in SOME areas and I believe cannot be ignored in the above quota objectives.



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- 15873 The 2017 deer season is the first year in my 59 years of hunting that I did not purchase a deer license to hunt. The number one reason was being so discouraged and frustrated by not seeing any deer. I have always hunted public land in Jackson county, but last year in the 2017 season, I still went into the woods with a camera as I love the outdoors. The only wildlife I encountered was coyote and two very large bobcats. That was opening day of the 2017 gun season. I only heard one shot the whole day. I talked with other hunters that I encountered out by the road wondering if anyone had seen any deer..Unfortunately no one that I had talked with had seen any deer, and they also were very discouraged. This is a very sad and discouraging situation for Jackson county as back in "the days" 60's and 70's hunting with my dad and a group of guys we would see 60 to 70 deer opening deer consistently. Now I feel lucky if I see one deer a year. I would consider the white tail deer on public in Jackson county to be an endangered species. When the does are continuously shot, there will be zero deer on public lands.
- 15874 I hunted during gun deer season 5 Days seen 3 Deer Total. In 2016 I hunted total 7 days seen NONE. Bow hunting 2016 seen 1 deer early season. 2017 seen 5 Total 2 Small bucks which I passed up. I and others that actually pound the ground have No intentions of supporting this foolish notion of a deer heard getting out of control at this time. I grew up Not being able to shoot a Doe unless 4 hunters applied for a Party tag. Seen deer almost every day I hunted. It wasn't about killing, it was about hunting and seeing animals. You folks are promoting killing only, By giving these kids tags free. As That kid grows into Adult Hood he thinks that he should Just be able to kill something. Governor Walker made you people out to be nothing more than a punching bag for him. When he changed the law on hunting age. That alone took more Does out of the reproductive roll.
- 15875 Also take into account the damn elk in the area.....and how many of them have been killed by wolf's ect. The dnt can't even keep there elk from getting killed by the wolf's, what are they doing to the deer numbers every year your trying to grow them. I remember there being so many deer in this area as a kid, that opening morning seeing 20 deer was not uncommon, now I'm lucky if between my dad and myself we even see a deer all of opening weekend, and it has been this way for the last 10 years. Signed the disappointed hunter.
- 15876 I agree with the CDAC recommendation to continue to increase the deer population of the Jackson County-Central Forest. If antlerless tags must be issued, please continue to keep the # of permits low to ensure we continue to work toward increasing the overall population of the herd. In the area I hunt, there are no signs of over browse or overpopulation. My opinion is formulated on observing my area throughout the different seasons of the year. Thank you again to everyone that volunteers their time to be on this committee.
- 15877 Either have 1000 bonus tags available for purchase on public hand, or have zero. This waiting in line for hours in order to be the first person in line is ridiculous. If you are not the first person in line, you have no chance to get one of these 300 tags that are available....they sell out in 60 seconds. In today's world of technology, a different system needs to be implemented. Otherwise, have either 1000 available or zero, and this will solve the issue as well.
- 15878 I have hunted Jackson county Forrest for 32 years I have seen deer and hunter numbers drop greatly however the deer numbers are increasing greatly. My experience has shown that a change in hunting practice is a most in this zone. My group of six hunters had a 50% success rate last year the because of less hunting pressure we had to change to making small drives all 6 hunters saw deer they could have harvested what a great place to hunt
- 15879 I think it is only fair that a hunter can receive only one antlerless permit if they are available. Even with one antlerless permit, that allows a hunter to potentially shoot 3 deer in a season, buck for bow, buck for gun plus an antlerless. In my opinion I question that should be allowed. It's 50 acres minimum for land owner preference for Turkey hunting. Could you consider 50 acres minimum for antlerless permits on private land?



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- 15880 With the quantity of antlerless deer harvested in 2017, I, as a landowner, am concerned with fawn recruitment numbers for 2018. We witnessed no recruitment in 2016, 3 fawns (one set of twins) in 2017. Our concern is building the herd with fewer does in 2018. We would prefer to see extremely limited antlerless tags until all breedable aged does are seen with fawns shortly after drop time and before interaction with predators.
- 15881 I have hunted Jackson county since I was 12. I am now 40. Overall I think there is good management of the herd. I was only able to hunt Monday and Tuesday of the season this year but saw about 20 deer. I know the overall population is down from peak numbers but would like the opportunity to get a hunters choice tag to harvest a doe with my party. Thanks for your time, Troy Thompson
- 15882 I think it is not the population of deer in the unit as much it is the amount of Tree Harvesting which has caused Hunters to move to other units to hunt and this makes the pressure on the deer less during the season therefore less sightings and less harvest. I spend a lot of time at My Cabin and see quite a number of deer all summer and during the season they seem to disappear.
- 15883 I recommend increasing the private land bonus permits to 450 to allow the private landowners the ability to manage the deer herd in problem areas within this unit. There are localized areas on private land that borders the farmland area where the deer population is much higher than other areas within this unit. I would leave the public land tags at 350.
- 15884 Please do something to change the current laws pertaining to crossbows. THIS IS NOT ... NOT BOW HUNTING. Many more deer are being harvested prior to gun season because of crossbows. Something needs to change regarding these weapons. And the law regarding any age person being able to purchase a tag is RIDICULOUS. That needs to change immediately.
- 15885 If public lands are producing a higher antlerless harvest, and private landowners want to harvest an antlerless deer, why not increase the antlerless tags for private land. Conversely, if so many public land hunters are complaining about not seeing enough deer, why not reduce the antlerless deer tags available for public land.
- 15886 I appreciate the opportunity to express my opinions on deer hunting in the areas where we hunt. I do think programs like "Earn a Buck" were not managed to the level of expected results. I also fully understand that proper levels of funding are not always available and that can lead to conclusions from marginal gathered data.
- 15887 I've been hunting in this area for almost 50 years. For the past 25 years it seems the deer population & shot fired on opening weekend has gone down each year. It's getting a little more disappointing each year. It's become more of a winter camping trip than deer hunting.
- 15888 The herd needs to grow. And killing does even a small amount will not allow this. Especially with wolves in the equation. We have a long way to go before we need to worry about over browsing and crop damage.
- 15889 Jackson county wolf population should be considered. Every year more and more wolf tracks, you can tell they are traveling in groups of three or four and sometimes more. Lots of wolf activity east of I-94
- 15890 There are fewer bucks and a lot more does. If you want buck only, there should be an antler point restriction. Hunters can't shoot does so too many young bucks are being taken.
- 15892 Numbers of doe are overwhelming compared to the number of bucks being seen. Doe population is high compared to the amount of bucks seen.
- 15891 I feel that hunter should only be eligible for one on line bonus tag and own at least 40 contingent acres to obtain one for private land.
- 15893 I do not live in this unit but I am a landowner in this unit. Anyone with an antlerless tag is not allowed to hunt on my property.
- 15894 Too many hunters don't play by the rules, so don't give them the chance to break them (need doe numbers to progress in the area)



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15895 I see many,many does in eastern Jackson Co. would like to see more permits issued to people who actually live in Jackson Co.

15896 No antlerless permits let this herd regain itself. Begin harvest operations of Wolves

15897 You need to do something about the wolf population.

15898 There's too many predators!

18036



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Jefferson, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

103 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 89
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
I hunt in this unit: 89
General interest in this unit: 28

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 81
Bow: 74
Crossbow: 22
Muzzleloader: 49

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 25.74
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 33
Mostly Private Land: 14
Public and Private Land About Equally: 24
Mostly Public Land: 14
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 6
Not too crowded: 10
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
Somewhat crowded: 12
Very crowded: 20
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 7
Fewer: 21
Same: 47
More: 25
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	7	23	34	24	15	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	11	37	25	27	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	30	11	25	14	19	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	42	49	12	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	51	49	3
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	58	40	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	10	89	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.06
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.50
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.18
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.24
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.41
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.22
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.16
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	1.95
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.37
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.60
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.33



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Jefferson, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 15899 My personal opinion is that the deer seasons that were available last year was perfect. I saw hunters every day that I hunted during the nine-day gun hunt. The only deer that I saw during the nine-day season were the deer that I kicked in the ass. Any deer that is left on public land by November is mostly nocturnal due to the amount of pressure that happens during the bow season. The only thing that the extra public land tags is going to do is increase the number of hunters that are hunting the already pressured public lands. The only way to reduce the deer numbers in the county is to get more deer shot on the private land, this is not going to happen because people are not going to massacre "their" deer, like they did in the past. I am completely against the holiday hunt and bow hunting till the end of January. I am a conservationist, take what you need in the allowed amount of time. All that extending the season is going to do is cause conflict with non-hunters and hunters. Also if it snow during the holidays the amount of skiers that use the public lands is high. It then causes an issue of human safety. The general public is not required to wear orange and they should not have to "know better". If you do put the holiday hunt on then I feel the wildlife and warden staff should be required to post that a gun hunting season is going on and that bright cloths should be worn, at all state properties in the county. in conclusion I was turkey hunting some state land that had a hiking trails in it. Through the brush I saw something red and black moving. Turkey!!????? Nope a german shepard and two ladies walking. When I approached them they knew that a hunting season was going on. They thought a red handkerchief would be a good way for hunters to see thier dog.
- 15900 Hunters have more than enough deer seasons now to harvest a deer, as a stake holder, hunter, and conservationist myself can manage for more quality opportunities along with experience. A quality herd starts with great habitat, older age does. Even though the county has great fawning habitat which is cover 3 feet down or less in case didn't know usually grasses or early successional growth throughout much of the county! Frankly the age class of antlerless is deer is far younger in this part of the state compared to others due many factors with 1 being far too excessive of hunters and antlerless deer. It is time to face the facts as far as ag damage or vehicle collision we are the number predator on the landscape whether hunt or not more people on the roads, with our population growing at much faster rates compared to wildlife also reducing suitable habitat less more every year.
- 15901 i drive at dawn and dusk i live not to far off jefferson marsh and see heards of deer from 30 to 50 at a time if half of them twin to me thats way over populated and if u do antlreless only make it for all types of hunt bow and all not just gun and a minimum of earn a buck for sure ive deer hunted all my life and when i was a kid to see 3 to 4 deer at a time would be great now its i can have my tags filled 5 minutes after i sit down and have the option to pick and choice witch deer i get and can pass many deer if i got time to sit all day and many others just hunt for horns so they arnt taking does that need to be put back in check so please make something happen i also trap 4000 plus acres and see deer all over and deer damage is very excessive compard to coon damage turkeys are also way outa controls by us aswell
- 15902 This new survey is a great idea. I feel my opinion and time in the field is valued. The west end of Jefferson county is where I dedicate the majority of my time now hunting. Driving during winter and spring along county road C, you can easily spot 70-100 deer every night in that area. I have noticed that the doe population greatly out weighs the buck population. Would bringing back a form of earn a buck help regulate the population? Maybe 2 doe tags would earn an additional buck tag. It would greatly encourage avid hunters who want a chance at a second buck to harvest more does. Many would harvest 1 and maybe even 2 of those additional antlerless deer, and many hunters may not even use that earned buck tag., therefore protecting the buck poplutation. Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in



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- 15903 I am strongly NOT in favor of a Holiday hunt or extended archery season. Why don't you issue 2 extra antlerless tags with each license? That would eliminate the need for a Holiday hunt and extended archery season. Those tags would have a better chance of getting filled earlier in the season when the weather is more favorable. I would like to do other things in the woods that time of year and not worry about getting shot! I go to the CDAC meeting every year and I'm getting pretty tired about hearing how we need this Holiday hunt for the kids that are going to be off on Christmas break. I never see anyone bringing their kids to those meetings to hear their comments. I hope the CDAC committee votes on behalf of what the majority wants and not what there own personal agenda is!
- 15904 I would really like to see 1 buck and 1 doe per hunter total...bow and gun combined. For example, if you shoot a buck and doe with your bow, you are done for the year. Still keep the bonus doe tags for areas that have more deer and 1 buck only for areas with less deer. I really think its the best of a lot of worlds, meat hunters can still shoot anything that walks by, trophy hunters should see an increase in quality of bucks, hunters in general should see more deer, and the dnr can still manage the herd with extra doe tags or no doe tags depending on the area. Plenty of states have the one buck rule and it seems to work well. Let me know and thanks for your help.
- 15905 1) The CWD problem remains. There seems to be no viable solution besides culling the herd further. 2) The various weapon specific hunting seasons have lost their intended purpose. They now seemingly exist to promote the sales of specialized equipment: (Crossbows, Modern Muzzleloaders). I would suggest looking at how other states structure their alternative weapons hunts. Modern Muzzleloaders are capable of outperforming many, if not all of the historic breech loading single shot rifles that were designed in the late 1800s. Why not add a category for those historic rifles in addition to the modern 300+ yard capable, scoped, smokeless powder muzzleloader.
- 15906 Our antlerless population is way higher so to EHD in 2011-12 ,it took a harder hit on our properties and surrounding land more than we thought . I run 60 Trail cameras and have had a lack of mature bucks up until this last year. The over all heard Health looks good now but having a holiday antlerless only hunt puts more stress on our bucks than they can sustain and puts them at greater risk of being killed with a gun if a both sex hunt occurred. Bucks need peace and food to sustain there body waits to make it through winter and can't take extra hunting pressure with guns that time of the year. Thanks for all you do
- 15907 My primary reason for completing the survey was to advocate for the Holiday Hunt. This is an important time for friends and family to enjoy the outdoors together and pass on the hunting tradition to younger generations. In taking the survey, I agree with the goal to maintain the overall population, but feel the number of bonus tags proposed may be a bit of a jump. Something around 1,000, up from 500 last year, would seem more reasonable. I also support extending the bow season, as this provides additional opportunities after the busy holiday season to take the kids hunting.
- 15908 While attending the meetings over the years I keep hearing the committee stating they would like to have a holiday hunt so they can take their KIDS hunting over Christmas vacation. Well I checked the DNR website and as I expected there are many other species to hunt that time of year other than deer. This I already new because we hunt them during this time. My point is let's keep this committee on track and make our decisions based on the positive or negative effect it will have on our deer population. P.S. I hate the holiday hunt but understand if necessary
- 15909 Wouldn't mind at least three points on one side to be a legal buck harvest for hunters over the age of 18. Kids can still have the four inches on one side rule. We need more mature bucks in the county. I own land and hunt it. The number of bucks three years old or more has dramatically dropped over the last five years, and number of deer is down at least 50%. In my opinion need to let bucks get older and stop slotting all the does. I heard my neighbor shot 46 does a couple years ago when you could get as many tags as you wanted not right... Thanks



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- 15910 I oppose the Holiday hunt, as well as extending the archery season. You would THINK that I would be in favor, as I pretty much strictly bowhunt... even during the gun season most often. However, I do think that when January rolls around, other recreational opportunities, as well as time we spend working in the woods, has its place. Some in our family trap and hunt coyotes, this would be a conflict as well.
- 15911 Just a thought, if your not going to offer a holiday hunt for this county; would you consider, having a holiday hunt for youth only. This could be a great opportunity for the youth to have a better chance to harvest a deer, manage the deer; and more importantly, keep the youth more excited about the deer hunt traditions. Thanks for everything you do and have a safe season.
- 15912 I can't believe the recommendation brought forth by the Jefferson County CDAC. Is the Jefferson County CDAC trying to destroy the whitetail population in this county? This is why there are hardly any whitetail deer on public lands in Jefferson County. The rate in which the Jefferson County CDAC is going there will be no whitetail deer for our kids to hunt in the future.
- 15913 As a landowner by the time the last gun hunt is done in mid December I have had enough. Dealing with trespassing and hunters standing or in tree stands right on the property line is not any fun. The Holiday Hunt is not an effective tool, why create more problems. I also feel this survey should ask if the person is a farmer or land owner. Thanks
- 15914 Deer heard is finally starting to make a come back. WE DO NOT NEED ALL THESE ANTERLESS TAGS!! One buck tag one anterless tag, that is all that is needed. Shorten the crossbow season too. They are no different than shooting a shotgun which is creating lazy hunters and farther unethical shots.
- 15915 More buck tags, less doe tags. I spend a significant amount of time in the outdoors year round and the deer sightings have been decreasing for the last several years. Trail camera pictures have also decreased. Need to increase/improve the doe heard to help raise the population.
- 15916 I would like to see the DNR move the deer muzzle loader season later in the year like third week of December. I love muzzle loader hunting and I think if you give a week or two after firearm season it would be much more enjoyable for we muzzle loader hunters! Ty
- 15917 The deer population is lower than it has been in this area for many years! We can not keep killing all these does and expect to have a decent number of deer!! It should be changed back to what it was a few years ago, ONE DEER OF EITHER SEX PER YEAR PERIOD!!!!
- 15918 Saw 5 deer archery hunting with no shot and no deer gun or muzzle loader hunting. Harvested no deer in this county. Doesn't seem like 51 deer per square mile of habitat.
- 15919 You are not listening to hunters about Quality Deer Management and many hunters are forming co-ops and managing the deer themselves for better hunting experiences.
- 15920 I believe the deer population is on the rise somewhat. If we did have a Holiday hunt might be a good idea if children could shoot either sex. Say kids under 14.
- 15921 I do not support increasing antlerless tags at all nor do I support shortening the crossbow season by any means.
- 15922 Extending the deer hunting season affects snowmobile trails and the season is short enough!
- 15923 I live in the area I hunt and do not see nearly as many deer as I did 10 to 15 years ago
- 15924 Continue to grow the herd. Numbers are getting back to pre-cwd which is wonderful.
- 15925 I believe crossbow should be durring gun season not the archery season
- 15927 It would be wonderful to see our deer herd continue to grow
- 15926 No antleeless tags for a year. Get the herd number back up.
- 15928 Do not extend the archery season until January 31!



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15929 Agree to have a holiday hunt.

15930 no holiday hunt

18037



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Juneau, Central Farmland

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34 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 17
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
I hunt in this unit: 31
General interest in this unit: 2

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 27
Bow: 21
Crossbow: 17
Muzzleloader: 11

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.06
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 25
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 0
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 2
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 5
Fewer: 12
Same: 10
More: 4
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	2	20	6	3	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	2	19	9	3	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	4	19	4	0	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	1	13	19	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	7	21	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	14	14	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	28	1
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.25
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.84
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.41
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.81
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.44
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.16
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.09
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.19
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.41
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.94
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.41



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Juneau, Central Farmland

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- 15931 I wish to see the hunting tag come back. It is the only way to identify trespassers and people hunting to close to buildings. My fear is that a few hunters may know that the owner can not identify the hunter and make it more likely that they will trespass. In the past at least the owner could take a picture of the back of trespassers and identify them by the license. I live in Adams county but I own a tree farm in Juneau where I hunt. I have had problems in the past and do not like wasting my hunting time hunting trespassers. For the past 4 or 5 years the deer population on my property has been very low and I have not seen a buck. I believe we are over hunting the area and /or trespassers are killing off the deer on my property. I am also sure that wolves were part of the problem 4 or 5 years ago.
- 15932 The population appears to be very stable and thankfully there hasn't been any sign of ill or injured deer on my game cameras, observations, harvests, etc. the deer are in decent groups and herds and it seems as though many days hunting are hit or miss as to whether or not you see many deer that particular morning or evening. In many cases I think forage near your stands and hunting pressure have had a large impact on surrounding areas so a perception that there are fewer deer isn't necessarily accurate for every area of the county. Properties with unpressured doe herds tend to see and have more opportunities at seeing more deer in the day time. Thank you for your hard work in making the county a better place to hunt and see deer
- 15933 This unit has lots of farm land in it. The farmers refuse to let people on their properties to harvest agricultural damaging deer. We are talking 1000's of acres where forests were wiped out and made into crop fields. At this rate the only deer left will be on private farm owned land. Please do not give any more ag. Tags or doe tags then needed. Farmers can not complain about damaged crops when not letting people harvest "their" deer. Understand its private but that is there choice. Please keep the current tag ratio in place. Should start to see more antlers for a change instead of yearling deer. Thanks
- 15934 I support a holiday hunt on condition of the use of only regular season tags available for this area. There are times the weather is not favorable for good hunting during the regular season then a person would have the option of holding off for the holiday season hunt. The 2 seasons would also give a person the flexibility of hunting either or to avoid conflicts with personal or work schedule.
- 15935 Following comment may not apply here. If not please forward to the proper people. Comment: Being 75 years of age I don't have a dog in the crossbow fight, however, the issue with them is the excess number of bucks being taken. Two things could take care of this "buck number" problem. (1) Eliminate group hunting. (2) One buck limit per season regardless of weapon used.
- 15936 If crossbow harvest ratio of bucks to does was abnormally high in Juneau Cty like it was in other I think it would be good management of the public's resource to control it either they shortening the crossbow season pre-gun or by making that tag earn a buck.
- 15937 the only reason I oppose giving out 2 doe tags per license is I believe a antlerless deer should have a value to it nobody should have a problem paying \$12 for extra tags, give out one free tag per license and double the number of bonus tags for purchase
- 15938 I own 170 acres in the Juneau county farmland zone and have lived on that farm my entire 51 years of life. I started hunting in 1978. I have never had such poor hunting. The Wisconsin DNR should be embarrassed by there mismanagement of this resource.
- 15939 One thing you took away from handicap hunters I have stage four cancer which is terminal I had to pay for crossbow permit I'm in wheel chair if your not handicap they shouldn't be able to use crossbow



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15940 Just way to many deer more so in the southern part of this county that boarder's Sauk county.

15941 I think the cdac board is doing what it needs to do, to address concerns of general public.

15942 In the last 2 seasons i have not seen a buck and only seen a handfull of does

15943 In 2017 season I observed more does with no fawns compared to 2016.

18038



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Juneau, Central Forest

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77 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 27
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 19
I hunt in this unit: 64
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 64
Bow: 36
Crossbow: 26
Muzzleloader: 14

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.25
Maximum: 58

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 17
Mostly Private Land: 12
Public and Private Land About Equally: 11
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 20
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 7
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 9
Somewhat crowded: 14
Very crowded: 13
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 14
Fewer: 25
Same: 21
More: 14
Many More: 3
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	10	13	24	19	11	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	6	11	24	18	18	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	9	12	25	15	16	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	42	31	4

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.49
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.51
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.00
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.39
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.33
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.47
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.94
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	1.99
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.44
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.33
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.31



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Comments for Juneau, Central Forest

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15944 I hunt exclusively public land all around the Juneau Co Forest Zone. I have lost count of the years since I have seen the numbers of deer that would allow a person to feel good about the population. For at least the last 5+ years I have hunted the 9 day gun season and seen less deer over the whole 9 days than I can count on one hand and that is not only counting what I see in the woods while hunting, but even deer crossing or along side the roads while driving to and from our hunting areas in the early morning and evening hours. Pathetic, REALLY!!! I have hunted these same areas of county and state lands for 35+ years and it was common to see at least 6 to 10 deer(or sometimes many more) each day of opening weekend and continue to see at least a few each day as the season progressed. Now, if you do not have the opportunity to see deer on opening morning, you will likely not see one for the whole season unless you get a group together to make drives to move the few deer that are around. We even made a couple trips to some MFL property in the Farmland Zone and still were "skunked" for sightings. It was a great looking piece of habitat as well and should have had deer on it, but nothing, which leads me to believe that even in the Farmland Zone the population could easily be increased by 15% to 25% without a detriment to herd health or non-hunting stakeholders. That said, the wolf issues in the northern portion of the county continue to keep the herd from rebounding, and obviously we have no recourse in that regard per the Feds, so limiting antlerless harvest by hunters will be the only way we can expect the herd to rebound to numbers where we have a reasonable expectation of seeing enough deer to keep kids and new hunters interested and hunter recruitment up. I am sure there are "pockets" of land where the deer numbers are as good as they were 20 years ago, but they are few and far between now and we have DMAP to take care of those outlier situations. As a whole, deer hunting in Juneau Co was very good as little as 15 years ago, now it frankly sucks. The young man I brought into the sport 4 seasons ago was lucky enough to harvest a forkhorn buck his first day ever hunting deer, he has only seen 2 other deer in the woods since, this is not a good trend if you want to keep folks like that buying licenses and spending their money in the county. He is to the point now that he wants me to abandon my old hunting ground in Juneau and come down to southern WI and hunt near where he lives. I see you don't have a "tourism rep" on the Juneau CDAC, but statements like the one I just made do not bode well for that stakeholder group with the populations at the low levels they are currently at. Thank you for giving us this "forum" to express our concerns.

15945 In areas with high wolf and bear numbers, the deer herd simply cannot recover. we have had 3 and now 4 easy winters and the deer population still struggles. and here we have the cdac committee backing off last years harvests because of the sagging deer population. pathetic! The hunter is being screwed at the expense of the wolf, bear bobcat and whatever else is out there. No longer can the hunter in the central forest enjoy some venison and help the deer herd at the same time. No, we have to take the back seat to the damn wolves. The public hunting grounds are bare of hunters compared to years back. Hunters will hunt where there are deer. There are so few in the central forests of Juneau that hunters no longer come here. landowners in some areas have to take low offers because there aren't deer on there properties or general area. Easy winters aren't going to solve this problem as the ever growing number of wolves and bear just keep eating the surplus. Hunters are getting the shaft. When the DNR had the chance to make a real dent in the wolf populations they failed miserably. Truth is they don't want the wolf population to be at the minimum of 350. no they want it high so they can make money on an annual wolf hunting season. all at the expense of the beautiful whitetail and the hunters who pursue. wouldn't it be nice cdac members if you could say with enthusiasm that you had to issue a record number of doe tags because the population was exploding? well those days are forever gone. each year you will have to grit your teeth and fight over whether you should increase the public lands tags by 50 or 75 instead of thousands. how pathetic is that.



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- 15946 I have hunted public land all of my life , the last several years hunting on public forest I have had someone place Mothballs around my tree stand. I moved location only to have Someone put white powdery substance on a stump 15 yards from my stand. I moved my stand again and saw 1 deer for every 20 hours on stand. I spoke to a man walking in the area I hunt and he reported someone had put mothballs around his brother in law stand also. Hunting the same woods someone had unhooked my ladder stand and left it on the tree. I climbed the ladder in the dark not realizing it was no longer attached to the tree. The stand fell with me on it. I caught a branch with one hand and prevented a fall. The white powder on the stump was apparently some attraction or mineral. The stump was almost eaten when I checked it the following year. I did not hunt that stand for two years because I did not want to be hunting near the eaten stump for fear of hunting over bait. The private home owners near the County a Forest Drive ATV's off the private land into County Forest. I assume they maybe the people moslesteing my stands, although the man who reported his brother in law stand covered with mothballs is a landowner. He also thought it was private land owners. I started hunting this land when I was 14 years old. The number of hunters peaked in the 80s and declined. The last two years has jumped back up to what I saw in the 80s. Please Buck only , so the numbers can go back up.
- 15947 I do not support the restriction on age for people to hunt. This appears to be an effort to boost tag sales and promote additional tourism. What happened to Hunter's Safety? Additionally, this program serves as a means for many people to buy "bonus tags" if unable to obtain them through traditional means. I know people that have done just as much with adult members of their family in the past. Adding young children to their roster of available tags will enable them to (at least attempt to) harvest more deer during a season. It would be one thing if there were any efforts to enforce rules by the DNR, but there is practically no risk of encountering law enforcement (particularly when you register deer online) for these individuals. You're encouraging abuse in an effort to collect revenue. I am 28 years old. I've hunted in Wisconsin since I was 12. I've recently started hunting in Wyoming. I enjoy hunting where I consistently see wildlife and encounter rangers enforcing laws and checking that people are abiding by the rules in place. If I had to pick one state to hunt in, I continually move toward favoring Wyoming or other Mountain West states.
- 15948 I have hunted the Necedah refuge for 30 plus years. I have looked at it as my own land and am concerned on the amount of predators I now see compared to even 10-15 years ago. Wolf sightings used to be a rarity, but not anymore. With that being said there are a bunch of deer in this area, but very few hunters to get after them compared to the 90's and early 2000's. I had one of the doe tags last year and chose not to fill it even though I multiple opportunities. I hunt with a lot of my family and we are considering for the first time ever going to another county or potentially another state to hunt. The lack of antlerless tags, the amount of predators, and the lack of hunters has become to much. The unfortunate part is this has been a tradition. Traditions of hunting, spending time with family, visiting local establishments, and shacking up in the same cabin we have for years may come to an end. The poor management of the population has finally done a lot of us in. I hope it gets turned around someday so I may return with my two younger sons.
- 15949 I still that wolves are biggest hinder to growing this population. I was able to take 2 coyotes this winter in the area but it makes it difficult to drive through the refuge and see so many coyote and wolf tracks yet be unable to do anything. (Coyote cannot be hunted in Necedah Refuge.) Winter is tell take sign. When you see wolf tracks following deer tracks as much as I did this winter, it's heart aching. I know quite a few people that hunt this area and when one is seeing deer(in woods or in trucks) something is wrong. It's only been getting worse. I know the wolf issue is out of our hands but I truly believe that is why we don't see more deer. Because we sure as heck aren't harvesting more. I know bears can also be listed as a predator. I have been baiting the area for about 6 years now and I have notice a slight rise in their population through those years. The predator factor is to me the bottom line of the deer population since their explosion in the area 10 years ago.



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- 15950 I believe each hunter should be issued one doe and one buck tag each Season that they choose to purchase. So example if I was to purchase a Bow and a Gun license then I should be able to bag 2 does and 2bucks for the year. Also the deer predators are out of hand.....Wolfs and coyotes populations are way too high and also make a real risk to peoples safety that are out on the land. We should have unlimited rights to reduce these predators. I also believe that you should make deer hunting open for bow or gun from Sept 1st to Feb 1st..... This would make more people invest into hunting that don't have flexible days off, sick or weather related issues. Long season means more people interested in this sport, more people respecting nature and our resources. Increase hunters means more Licenses, more local business and town money and more days or relaxing in a deer stand.
- 15951 Seems like I saw a slight increase in deer numbers. Does only seemed to have 1 fawn by end of summer, although I saw a fair amount in twins early in summer. Predators continue to increase including wolves, bears bobcats and coyotes. Gun hunter numbers are no where near what they were in 1980s to 2000s. I was the only one of our group of 5 to harvest a buck during gun season, pretty much the norm for the last 7 or 8 years, we hunt meadow valley exclusively. Was able to harvest an antlerless deer during muzzle loader season, one of the 50 tags available! Nice to see the timber harvest But it sure seems focused on the best oak stands. Sections that were clear cut in early 1980s do not appear to be producing any mast crop yet! Seems like a lot of meadow valley is shifting to jack pine, and white pine, with a lot less mature oak forest stands
- 15952 As you can see I have been hunting this area since 1963. When the NCWF was managed for wildlife, we had and could see a wide variety of ducks, geese, deer, fish, squirrels, porcupine, wild birds and turkeys. Most of the time on a leisurely drive around the refuge all this was visible. Not know. Surrounding areas and Meadow Valley are bare of wildlife. What Happened? Changing times? I don't think so. The head of the nail seems to fall on poor management. How are you planning to increase hunter numbers and tourism and help the local economy?. I am 73 and I have stories to tell. What type of stories are this younger generation going to be able to tell. The hell with cwd. Increase the deer herd and the rest of the wildlife will follow, as well as the local economy increase and tourism and hunter numbers.
- 15953 When I started hunting the area 24 yrs ago I would see deer on any given day with reasonable weather. It was nothing to see 10 or so deer on opening day of the gun hunt. Now this last year I saw 4 deer in nine days. I know for a fact that baiting is still an issue in the area and that individuals are buying private tags and harvesting does on public land. The only way to get this to stop is eliminate all Antlerless tags for 2 yrs and see how the deer come back. Bow season we have a resident for with 2 fawns this year, take them out of the equation and I'm lucky if I saw 5 other deer for the year, rut included.. help everyone and eliminate all Angeles tags for the next 2 yrs please. If a Hunter puts in enough time they will still be successful. Thank you
- 15954 This unit needs another few years of low antlerless harvest tags to get the gears back to a healthy state. There is a high number of wolf and predators in this unit and this needs to be addressed. We have 40 acres of private land on the north side of the Necedah wildlife refuge That we do not even hunt because we want to see the herd come back. We have one of the public lands for over 40 years in our group myself for the last 24 and we see a number of Wolf sightings every year in our group and we travel all large section of this unit to hunt all year and you would be surprise on the amount of wolves sign in the area.
- 15955 We should go back to letting biologists make decisions for our county, not bar stool biologists who don't see enough deer. Cwd is a real concern for the county and overpopulation is causing serious problems with forest regeneration. In my field alone, I see 15 plus deer a day, 95 percent of them are antlerless. Under the new suggested decrease in antlerless tags, I can only shoot one doe if lucky enough to get an over the counter tag in the central first zone. We need to be more concerned about the overall health of the heard, and less concerned about the opinions of a few loud voices claiming we have no deer.



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- 15956 I hunt and live by the Necedah wildlife refuge and I have noticed a large decline in the population of deer since I have been hunting. To combat this I propose moving to buck only tags and also limiting the amount of tags issued with a priority given to those who live in the local area. I also believe that the wolf population in my area is exploding and cutting down the deer population drastically, to deal with this I suggest more trapping being allowed of the wolves and any proceeds that come from that be funneled back in to conservation of woodlands, deer and other wildlife.
- 15957 Many hunters feel the DNR is increasing funding by selling the antlerless permits for \$12.00 and it is very difficult to get a tag via the telephone system as you are put on hold for a long period of time then you get disconnected. A few years ago hunters were given 2 tags bow, gun. If a seasoned hunter is not allowed to harvest a doe then tags should not be given to young hunters (first time youth) or to those in the mentor program. How accurate is the information that is provided to the DNR on deer populations?
- 15958 Either have 1000 bonus tags available for purchase on public hand, or have zero. This waiting in line for hours in order to be the first person in line is ridiculous. If you are not the first person in line, you have no chance to get one of these 25 tags that are available....they sell out in 15 seconds. In today's world of technology, a different system needs to be implemented. Otherwise, have either 1000 available or zero, and this will solve the issue as well.
- 15959 Our group has been buying antlerless tags every year and throwing them out trying to do what we can to protect the doe population, but a few hunters can't make that big of difference for the whole unit. Last year there were so few deer, I didn't harvest anything even though I was constantly in the stand. It's sad when you put in months of your time and don't get your deer. I know others in the area that put in the same amount of time and didn't see any deer either.
- 15960 Having hunted in Juneau county for over four decades, the extreme falloff in deer numbers in recent years has made hunting a near miserable experience - or at least a very low expectation event - compared to past years. Where we once would see many deer, we now feel fortunate to have a glimpse of one or two on opening weekend. We've seen the wolves and hear the coyotes and now even bear are showing up. Predation has decimated the herd in the central forest.
- 15961 There are a lot of wolves and bears in this unit. I can drive on dirt/gravel roads in the federal refuge or state land and have a hard time finding a deer track crossing the road where a old deer trail intersects with the road. I can walk for miles in the winter and hardly find any buck rubs or deer tracks. No problem finding lots of wolf sign and tracks. I don't think that the department should issue any antlerless tags north of highway 21.
- 15962 we need a abundant deer herd back. every year is worse. a person can hunt 3 or more days straight without even seeing a deer in the woods. It is a very sad situation in Juneau county. the Necedah wildlife refuge along with Meadow Valley wildlife areas are the worst i've seen in my lifetime for deer counts. we need more done and soon. Hunters and residents are very disappointed in the herd.
- 15963 Why do private landowners have such a significantly better chance of getting antlerless tags? If the goal is to increase overall deer numbers, limit PRIVATE antlerless tags also - the DNRs long history of cowtailing to the private landowners should end. Why are private and public antlerless tags not distributed more fairly?
- 15964 I feel strongly that we need to continue to build the deer population back up in this unit. I have been working on bringing youths into the sport of hunting, and they have no interest hunting when they rarely ever see a deer. Less doe tags now is a small price to pay to assure having quality hunting for future generations.
- 15965 There are just too many does in this unit. That in turn results in inbreeding and no or very little breeding competition during the rut from the more dominant bucks and that results in smaller bucks and less desirable sized deer to harvest. That also makes the central forest zone less desirable to hunt for other hunters.



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- 15966 Deer are abundant in farm fields in this unit. It is not unusual to see 20 plus deer in fields on private land. In public land, deer populations also seem to be good. Deer crossings and tracks are everywhere. Coyotes and wolves are also common, but there are plenty of deer.
- 15967 Even though there were 50 Public Antler-less tags available, there were numerous hunters and harvesting of does in the Northern Forest area. I also found 3 dead does that appear to have been shot that were not found. People do not understand the zones or just dont care.
- 15968 The kids tags are mostly filled by adults, this is a bad deal. Wolves have all but destroyed my 800 acres in northern Juneau. Deer numbers are the worst ive seen in my life, what the hell are you doing, my son gave up hunting at age 17 because it sucks so bad
- 15969 Good job guys. Population seems to have plateaued the last couple of years after slowly increasing off the bottom following those T-zone and unlimited tag seasons. Plenty of room yet for the herd to grow without browsing off the forests and ag fields.
- 15970 We have seen a very high increase in the Deer population in Juneau county since we have moved there in 1999 and in fact over the past 3 - 4 years we have seen the population double for both bucks and doe's.
- 15971 I feel that mineral should be legal to put out in this dmU to help the health of the herd and feeding should be legal on private land to help deer populations during a hard winter.
- 15972 In my opinion there should not be any antlerless deer permits issued at least for the next 2 to 3 years on public or private lands.
- 15973 I would love to see more deer in the central forest region, but winters kill plays a greater role than most hunters believe.
- 15974 I could not support the elimination of the xbow season nor not allowing its use during the rutting period.
Thanks....
- 15975 I believe we receive antlerless tags with the purchase of a license, in order to keep the herd in-check.
- 18039



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Kenosha, Southern Farmland

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25 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 21
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 1
I hunt in this unit: 20
General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 13
Bow: 15
Crossbow: 10
Muzzleloader: 9

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 20.45
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 8
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 4
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 7
Same: 6
More: 4
Many More: 0
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	0	4	6	11	3	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	2	21	0	0	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	2	21	0	0	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	0	7	17	0	0	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	0	5	19	0	0	0

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	1	9	13	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	8	16	0	0

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	3	21	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	11	11	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.25
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.62
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.50
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.33
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.96
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.21
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.04
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.96
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.12



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Kenosha, Southern Farmland

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15976 Last year the antlerless quota was 170. 148 antlerless were harvested. It would seem if 170 is a number that was acceptable to increase the herd and only 148 were harvested, why would you not make available 15-20 bonus tags, either public or private, to increase the opportunity for hunters to hunt on public or private. As is a land owner has to choose one place to hunt Private or Public. Decreasing the quota to 150 to match the number harvested last year, 148, seems like a numbers game that does not make sense and just limits hunting opportunity. At a success rate of 5%, issuing 20 bonus tags per public & private adds 2 more deer harvested, 1 public, 1 private. I think the value of having the extra tags outweighs the possibility of harvesting 2 more deer which still probably leaves you under quota. I would ask you to reconsider your recommendation and add 20 bonus tags per public and private.

15977 Please try and limit antlerless deer harvest quotas so the deer numbers increase. That will increase the deer sightings and then eventually the deer kill numbers due to the increased herd numbers. I believe that should be the overall objective. Deer numbers are way down in almost all areas of Wisconsin and we should increase the deer numbers in any way possible to increase hunting interest and tourism dollars. That may be at the expense of deer vehicle accident increased numbers as it was a huge factor 20 years ago. We should attempt to get back to those deer population numbers. Thank You

15978 Still harvesting to many does to achieve our goal of increasing the herd. I would rather see no tags with each hunting licenses and have 50 bonus tags to be sold across private and public land that way we are ensuring a lower doe harvest vs hoping for a good end result. Even at the 5% doe harvest success rate we are not closer to our increasing the herd goal then we were 4 years ago. Looks like most hunters are doing the right thing to build the herd but all it takes is a small percentage of hunters that don't know how to conserve and manage and the goal will never be met.

15979 For over 25 yrs I have been fairly successful in Kenosha county. In the last 3 to 4 years it has been very bad in my area. I see 3 to 4 deer the hole bow and gun season. I have not shot a deer in 3 years. I will not shoot any does any more because if don't see does you don't see any bucks. I have not seen a deer cross the road in my area in over 2 years. They are not may deer around any more. To many does have been killed off. I am getting tired of sitting out hunting day after day for weeks and seeing nothing.

15980 If last year's quota was 170 and only 148 antlerless were harvested, then this year's quota needs to be higher. If we really only want 150 antlerless taken for this year, then issue more than 170 tags for two reasons: 1) with the expectation of actually achieving the desired quota, and 2) to give more hunters the opportunity to harvest deer.

15981 I believe there should be a statewide antler restriction. There are still to many immature bucks being harvested. Coyotes are a huge problem. I often see does without fawns. I assume this is due to depredation. A bounty on coyotes should be implemented.

15982 Keep crossbow season inline with archery season. Do not shorten it. Issue exclusive metro sub-unit tags and make people choose between the regular county unit and the metro unit to make it fair for people taht can only hunt the metro unit.

15983 Very simple, if you want to increase the herd don't give out antlerless tags. Giving out tags has only led to us not achieving our goal.

15984 I believe coyotes are putting a hurt on the deer population, put a bounty on them. Keep the antlerless tags for youth deer hunt.



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15985 Keep up the great work! Do believe there was illegal shooting during the early bow season by me (early rut)
Disappointing

15986 I hope to see the DNR continue to work towards growing the deer population in Kenosha county.

15987 I do NOT support changing the crossbow season in this zone or throughout the state.

15988 Not seeing the deer we used to see years ago.

15989 I rarely ever see deer

18040



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Kewaunee, Central Farmland

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75 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 47
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
I hunt in this unit: 64
General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 61
Bow: 44
Crossbow: 19
Muzzleloader: 37

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.89
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 44
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 6
Not too crowded: 5
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 11
Same: 39
More: 13
Many More: 7
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	7	5	48	9	3	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	1	39	21	4	5
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	5	40	10	5	12
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	8	47	19	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	31	38	6
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	41	31	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	21	50	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.19
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.91
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.57
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.71
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.17
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.09
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.52
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.52
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.05
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.64
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.25



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Kewaunee, Central Farmland

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- 15990 As an avid bow and gun hunter I STRONGLY DISAGREE with extending the bow season till the end of January. There is plenty of time for a hunter to have a chance in filling their tag from the opener in mid September to the end of December. If it is a matter of putting meat on the table for the family then take a couple does during the gun season. I'm not opposed to having a bonus doe only firearm hunt between christmas and new years, while ending the bow season AT new years. There are also other outdoor actives that would be hindered by the entire month of January being set aside for bow hunting. As a hounds-men this would only leave 1 month of hunting with dogs weather it would be rabbit, coyote or fox. There is a lot of land owners that open up there land to small game hunters AFTER the deer season is done. With an extended season there would be an increase in predators and rabbit populations which can be considered a nuisance to some people. Having hunting dogs and hunting small game is just as much of a lifestyle as deer hunting is to some other people. with only having 1 month to hunt instead of 2 at best with the way deer hunting, winter conditions, and season closing; it will destroy small game hunting as we know it. Some people make dog hunting a big part of their life and spend countless hours and money into hunting their dogs, and this wouldn't be fair to all sportsmen of the county and state by cutting their seasons shorter. I know someone could make the argument that it won't by definition of the rule book with the dates proposed in it; but we all know what that intales if the season were to be extended. If people really want the deer herd numbers down propose a doe only / Earn a buck season and tell the people what needs to be done in order to STOP a doe only season AND the EXTENDED bow season... Thanks for your time
- 15991 I am a very passionate bow hunter, but, i totally disagree w the thought of extending the bow season to the end of Jan. I have videoed deer w the antlers shed in early Jan.and have found sheds as early as the end of Dec.on certain years. The idea of thinking this might help control our deer herd is crazy !!you will get your few " die hards " out there that will hunt when conditions are right, if, they have a deer on camera they feel they want to hunt, but otherwise, i hear people talk every year how they are going to hunt second bow season, and when the season ends, i find out they may have went once , or not at all ?? I spend as much time outdoors as anyone else i know that loves to hunt as much as i do, and get to witness our growing deer herd year round, and i firmly believe the only tool we had , was Earn a Buck... not sure if there is anything that can be done to bring that back, ??, but i think that is the only chance. Hunters will only shoot so many does, and some "old schoolers" still wont shoot a doe at all ?? So if the holiday hunt happens or not, the bow season should end Dec. 31 or early Jan. at the latest..
- 15992 I am very concerned about CWD, I believe all infected deer farms should be shut down. All baiting should be banned in all Counties to help prevent CWD. Deer hunting is a family tradition if deer were infected with CWD in my county my family and I will stop hunting. I hunt states out West where baiting is illegal and I have no problem Hunting for my animals, baiting in WI has become more important to hunters then the actual hunt. Baiting is out of control, I think the wardens only find a few of the many people that hunt over bait. Enforcement must be tough on the wardens with the limited personal in the field, they have greater concerns then people over baiting. When you see piles of bait at gas stations in the fall of the year it is a sign of how much baiting goes on and the amount of bait in the woods. All the bait has turned our deer into nocturnal feeders, the same hunters who dump all this bait in the woods will complain they never see any deer during shooting hours.



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- 15993 Deer numbers need to be reduced in certain areas. Accessibility for hunters at those locations is the number one problem. In addition, it is up to the individual landowner and or hunters on their land to determine what they need to do with the numbers on their particular property or section they hunt. If numbers do not get reduced I will support an antlerless only season to promote the reduction of the herd. We are treading a fine line on the carrying capacity of our habitat and a severe winter would bring numbers down further than what we as hunters will if we continue to not harvest enough deer. And this would ultimately reduce the herd further than we would like to see. Antlerless only hunts in my opinion do not encourage enough harvest. I do not know the correct path to be taken. I think it is the hunters mentality on whether they shoot antlerless or not.
- 15994 The dnr has given us MULTIPLE advancements for harvesting deer, (rifles, crossbow etc.). There is NO reason for the deer hunting season to go past muzzleloader season! Doing so will only take away from small game hunting, snowmobile riding and so on. All land is locked down until deer hunting is over. Rabbit hunting season is one and a half months only already. Also due to large farms controlling large acreage of land, the deer are being headed up into areas of feed, 200 acres of plowed field in yesteryear is now more like 600-800 acres of plowing in areas where maybe 20 hunters used to be, there aren't any deer because they move to winter feed areas. The agricultural department is making it impossible for the wildlife department to control the deer heard. It would be nice to know how many deer should be harvested per acre in Kewaunee county.
- 15995 Something has to be done to have more does harvested. Some suggestions I have are to have one buck limit for all weapons per year per hunter, an additional buck could be harvested if that hunter harvested two more antlerless in any season. Another would be that crossbow hunters would have to harvest an antlerless before a buck unless over the age of 62 or physically impaired. Maybe having a doe only weekend gun hunt in late September or early October when the weather is warmer would get more hunters out to participate hence more does harvested. Another idea would be to start the Holiday hunt right after the muzzleload season but still allow bow hunters to hunt bucks into January. And I would also like to see a six point or more buck restriction to promote better quality buck hunting and might force more does to be harvested.
- 15996 I support an antler-less only season for 2 main reasons. first being that by me NOBODY shoots does. I watch entire herds of does cross open fields and walk past 3-4 hunters with out even a shot. These people refuse to shoot does. The mentality is fewer does mean fewer bucks. Which leads me to my second reason. These same people will shoot a tiny 120lb 4 pt buck instead of a big mature doe. They would rather fill a buck tag than hunt for conservation and health of the deer population. I would love to see an antler restriction or an EAB return to this area.
- 15997 Extending the bow season thru Jan.31st would be horrible. I don't believe it will be effective in the goal of taking more antlerless deer. If someone is still deer hunting in Jan. they are probably after a trophy buck they know is still around. There would have been plenty of opportunity to fill antlerless tags before that. Small game seasons including squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, fox, and coyote would be effected. It is difficult to get onto private land. My daughter and I enjoy small game hunting. Running a deer season to Jan.31st would pretty end that.
- 15998 baiting of deer needs to be banned, people don't seem to be following the rules and are dumping way to much bait at a time which I've seen adversely affects deer movement and only turns deer to a nocturnal movement pattern. if people would follow the guidelines it would be fine but they don't because the odds of getting caught are minimal. also who's idea was it to release wolves in this unit I've seen collard wolves this past season in december and january. doesn't seem to make sense to release wolves in a agricultural unit
- 15999 I am in favor of bringing back earn a buck to support the management of the deer herd. Not only was it good for controlling the doe herd, it also aided the trophy hunter, which I believe is better for tourism. Nomatter how many tags are given out, some people will not shoot doe because they don't understand or care to understand the population and health of the herd. Plus you only need so much meat. My 3 man group consistantly harvests 2-4 doe per year. Even with extra tags, that is all the meat we need.



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- 16000 There are definitely a few hot spots in the county but many of the areas where the incredible number of deer sightings are made are no-hunt or lightly-hunted refuge situations. The rest of the areas seem to be annually kept in check by a combination of hunting, predation and hay cutting on fawns and roadkills. The addition of crossbow wounding (gun and bow wounding was always there) and the lack of solid registration data makes it more of a guessing game how many deer are actually being taken nowadays.
- 16001 Rather than offering so many extra tags, lengthen the season. I suggest copying Michigan's Nov. 15-30 season. Can still offer some bonus tags. I'd also suggest longer muzzleloader season. It could run for months of December and January without much effect on deer population, but that segment of hunters would really benefit. I've been hunting and observing deer for over 60 years in Midwest and western states and Wisconsin has the worst deer management practices of them all, by far.
- 16002 Why doesn't anyone bring up shooting only buck with 4 points or more on 1 side? We could have a lot more quality deer in the county and it would help people shoot more doe. I think the holiday Hunt is way too long. Should be 4 or 5 days. I don't like extending the archery season just let the archers shoot a buck during holiday Hunt if they haven't fill there buck tag for archery. Get rid of crossbows!! Make it only legal for crossbows if your handicap or 55yrs or older
- 16003 Deer hunters are managing the herd. DNR can give 10,000 tags with each license and the kill will be the same. Selling so called extra tags just seems money hungry. Longer bow season is a bad idea, doe to buck ratio is way off and some drop antlers as early as December if one buck gets accidentally shot in January that's too many. You better off opening it early. Try doing something to save the young bucks instead of trying to kill buck fawns.
- 16004 I highly recommend not to extend the bow season till the end of January. I feel the season for archers gives you ample time to harvest a deer. A lot of the snowmobile trails in Kewaunee county are on private land and if hunting was open till the end of January, landowners wouldn't give access to their land till the season closed. Which in turn would be a negative impact for the county and businesses.
- 16005 You can keep the youth hunt but the other hunts like 4 day antlerless hunt after muzzle loader, and holiday hunt I would like to see discontinued. I have no issue harvesting does but these special hunts typically keep me from going out and hunting deer during these times. Go back to the original hunting time periods we had in the 90's and issue plastic tags to tag deer.
- 16006 I'd rather see a doe only deer season before I'd want the bow season extended to the end of January!! If there's anybody hunting after the 1st of the year there not going to be out there shooting does!! I don't believe that's the answer to killing more deer! And it also takes away from the other hunting seasons like coyote, and rabbit that involves the use of hounds!!
- 16007 Reason I am for extending the Archery season to Jan. 31st is, every time there is another special hunt introduced the time is taken from the Archery season. Have you ever considered dropping the Muzzle loading season altogether, after all they are a firearm and should be used as a firearm of choice for that season. That is the way it use to be, what happened to that?
- 16008 I think if there is going to be a Holiday Hunt it should be shorter. Bow hunters should be able to still shoot a buck during Holiday Hunt if they have a open bow buck tag. I don't think it a good idea to extend the archery season to the end of January. If it's a bad winter bucks will be loosing there horns and it just puts more pressure and stress on the deer.
- 16009 Not enough does are being harvested. Anyway to improve the harvesting of more does would be a good idea. Most hunters still do not see the need of harvesting does. In the years following the "earn-a-buck" season hunters saw an increase in the number of bucks as well as larger bucks with larger racks. I think we should have another "earn-a-buck" season.



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- 16010 Keeping crossbows open to the public will bring more people to the great sport of bow hunting. Going back to how it was prior to 2014, would only hurt us. Not only in the number of hunters, but license sales will go down. Let's move forward, grow the sport, and keep adding opportunities. That's how we make strides forward.
- 16011 Very much against the January Bow season. Going to affect hound hunting greatly. We have an abundance of coyotes in this area and a lot of requests to control them. With this hunt it will cut down on our time to hunt them. A lot of land owners will not let you hunt until Bow hunting is done.
- 16012 Holiday Hunt is too long! Crossbows should not be legal for anyone! Handicapped or 55-60 years or older. A crossbow is more of a weapon than a recurve or a compound bow. Crossbow season should be shortened by a lot or just get rid of them altogether. Remember hunting should be a challenge
- 16013 Have the hunting season open sooner. If it goes till Jan can I still snowmobile. The snowmobile season can't be changed because of dates. If there's snow I would love to snowmobile instead of waiting for the hunting season to end. Start Hunting Earlier.
- 16014 We hunt private land that is surrounded by public land on 3 of the 4 sides. I have noticed a significant decrease in hunters after opening day. There are fewer hunters in the woods, so the deer are not moving. Not sure how to fix, just an observation.
- 16015 I would like to be able to use my Archery Buck tag, while bow hunting during the Holiday Hunt. I was disappointed to find out last year, that the Holiday hunt was strictly an antlerless hunt because I still had an archery buck tag.
- 16016 We need new tools to help better manage our deer herds. Some type of earn-a-buck would be helpful if used in moderation. Simply adding more seasons and giving out more tags is not the answer to controlling a growing deer herd.
- 16017 Did not like the fact that during the antlerless only time that a bow/crossbow hunter could not legally shoot a buck if that tag needed to be filled yet. This was a long time where they couldn't be in the woods enjoying a hunt.
- 16018 I think it is important that the crossbow season is held with the same dates as the standard archery season. With high quotas, crossbow seasons should increase the number of hunters and also the number of killed deer.
- 16019 I am very concerned about the personal views of several board members who are more concerned about their personal non-deer hunting activities rather than the control and maintenance of a healthy deer population.
- 16020 I think extending the bow season would be a terrible mistake, if Kewaunee county is happy with the deer population, why change anything and deer hunters will not hit the woods that time of a year
- 16021 With the high amount of antlerless tags we are seeing less deer while hunting and on our property. We also now have at least 1 wolf living in the area.
- 16022 I do not agree with the proposed reduced season for crossbow hunters. A crossbow is a legal form of hunting and should not be discriminated against.
- 16023 I do not want to extend the bow season any longer because that cuts into small game hunting, rabbit hunting, coon hunting, and coyote hunting etc.
- 16024 Seems like the crossbow harvest is too high compared to archery. I would support shortening the length of the crossbow season substantially.
- 16025 I think there should be some form of earn a buck type program every 3 years to help force hunters to reduce the amount of does.
- 16026 I do not believe that the deer season needs to drag on till Jan. 31st. it should not go past mid December at latest!
- 16027 I agree with maintain population for Kewaunee County and strongly oppose extending the bow season beyond early Jan.



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16028 I personally think the county is doing a good job with the deer herd. See deer and shoot deer it working good.

16029 Need some form of earnabuck Extended bow season will impact snowmobile trail access and hound hunters.

16030 Put crossbow regulations back to the way they were before anyone could hunt with one.

16031 I have a 10 acre farmette and there are so many deer it is hard to grow anything

16032 Being older would like to be able to leave tree stand on public lands

16033 Why was there wolfs put in kewaunee cty makes no sense

16034 Get rid of crossbows being legal for everyone

18041



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

La Crosse, Central Farmland

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45 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 33
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 6
I hunt in this unit: 38
General interest in this unit: 7

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 36
Bow: 25
Crossbow: 13
Muzzleloader: 10

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 19.87
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 29
Mostly Private Land: 5
Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 0
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 9
Fewer: 8
Same: 18
More: 8
Many More: 2
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	7	21	9	2	3



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	6	21	8	5	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	3	21	9	5	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	4	7	17	2	0	14
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	3	7	17	3	0	14

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	5	33	5	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	4	26	5	9

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	10	26	8
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	21	17	6
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	37	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.00
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.09
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.48
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	3.00
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.34
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.25
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.50
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.50
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.23
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.48
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.41



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for La Crosse, Central Farmland

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- 16035 I am still having a hard time with the not having to physically register a deer after it has been killed. It just seems to open the door for poachers who may want to take more than they are allotted. Also I feel for wardens that are not allowed to do their job on private property. I know this issue is political, but if you own land, and you are not in violation, who cares if the wardens come onto your property. I would like having them around my farm to pinch poachers and keep the wrongdoers out. Thanks for the time!
- 16036 I thought quotas and harvests were about right. I plant food plots along with regular crops on our farm and others hunt it as well. Our family harvests and eats about 5 deer per year. Things were satisfactory and I didn't hear much complaining from neighbors about their hunting situations. I would like to see a one buck per person limit in the future with no group hunting to take all the arguments out of the types of hunting methods. Each to his own and be happy with what you harvest.
- 16037 Don't sell unlimited number of antlerless tags per hunter. My neighbor shoots enough deer to feed his whole clan for the year. I've got 80 acres and shoot one or two a year, they have 80 acres and year after year shoot 10+ a year. They spend a lot of time in the woods to get those deer. The herd is very thin now. I also think the on-line registration is being abused. I believe Mom, grandma and great grandma are getting licenses and never stepping into the woods.
- 16038 The overriding concern for me is the growing prevalence of CWD throughout southern Wisconsin and the recent occurrence of CWD-positive deer in Vernon county. I would like an aggressive approach to population control to reduce the herd and prevent the spread of CWD into La Crosse county before it is too late. I don't care if my hunting opportunities are reduced for a few years. I want my children and grandchildren to be able to hunt deer in their lifetimes.
- 16039 The proposal to ban group deer hunting is a huge mistake. It will further erode the tradition of families hunting deer together in Wisconsin. While CWD is a concern, I don't feel it is as great a concern as the position the DNR has taken. Many states in the west have been dealing with CWD for decades and while it does ebb and flow it is not a huge concern in those areas.
- 16040 I believe we need to limit the length of the crossbow season along with the timing of when anyone can hunt with a crossbow. I am not a proponent of removing the use of a crossbow if there is a specific need for an individual hunter. This is one of the larger negative effects on the current herd that needs to be addressed very soon.
- 16041 As an avid archery hunter, I'd like to see the 2 buck tags be modified. Have 1 archery buck tag and 1 archery/gun buck tag. I'd like the second tag to be used during either season, but still follow Wisconsin's season dates. I don't love gun season, prefer to kill 2 bucks during archery season.
- 16042 Please change X-bow season to resemble youth hunt or something more limited. I am ok with the use of x-BOWS by elderly and disabled for the whole season. X-bows are too proficient to be used for the duration of the bow season by able body hunters.
- 16043 It should be clear, that deer populations are very strong on private land and, given the risk of CWD close to La Crosse County, populations should be moderately decreased from the current levels to help slow the spread of the disease.
- 16044 I would like to see the muzzleloader season opened to the addition of handguns using straight-walled cartridges. They have the same effective range as a muzzleloader and I think it would be a great addition to the hunting season.



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- 16045 I believe that the use of crossbows should be reserved for the gun deer season only. I say that even though I own one. Wisconsin should also consider point restrictions on bucks except for youth and first time hunters.
- 16046 I really like the inclusion of an antlerless tag (not specific for gun or bow) along with the buck tag for each license (gun and bow). Hunting is much more enjoyable when options are given with tag use. Thank you
- 16047 CDAC should work with municipalities and townships adjacent to but not in the La Crosse County "Metro Management" Zone to identify potential areas for expanding the Zone.
- 16048 I support the WDR and how they are managing the deer herd. I do not support doe only season earn a buck or antler restrictions. Thanks for allowing my input.
- 16049 I would love for the population to get back to a plentiful number. Ever considering making both gun and muzzleloader seasons just two weekends? 4 days.
- 16050 Even though the deer population seems to have improved in the area I hunt, there is still room for improvement.
- 16051 Maintain or expand any deer hunting opportunities, as far as seasons, holiday hunts, etc, in LaCrosse county.
- 16052 NEED BETTER WAY TO MAKE PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THIER KILLS. DONT THINK ALL KILLS WERE REGISTERED!
- 16053 Please extend the Lacrosse Metro Subunit Archery Season a week longer into February.
- 16054 Crossbows hunters should have shorter season except for handicap and +65 hunters
- 16055 Deer numbers are down. Compared to 5 years ago they are way down.
- 16056 Will a separate crossbow season be considered in the near future?
- 16057 Have a minimum size on buck harvest of 8 points
- 18042



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Lafayette, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

75 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 33
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
I hunt in this unit: 69
General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 66
Bow: 50
Crossbow: 26
Muzzleloader: 32

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 19.9
Maximum: 57

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 52
Mostly Private Land: 12
Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 0
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 7
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 29
Same: 31
More: 3
Many More: 1
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	6	38	19	6	4



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	2	40	19	7	5
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	2	34	20	7	9
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	5	28	37	4
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	7	67	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	16	54	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	13	58	3
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.56
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.01
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.24
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.37
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	2.81
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.19
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.07
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.17
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.34
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.73
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.29



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Lafayette, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 16058 How can the cdac recommend the holiday hunt and extended archery season when the county goal is to maintain the herd? How will these extra seasons not lead to a higher harvest? Most hunters do not want more opportunity like the dnr keeps thinking. We want a shorter, more traditional season. The increased pressure during a shorter season will lead to more people and deer moving equaling a higher harvest. With all of these special seasons that are one right after another, the deer are becoming nocturnal and harder to kill. You sit all afternoon for the last 10 minutes of shooting hours. There are more and more late shots every year because of this also. Who wants to field dress a 3 month pregnant doe in January? How many bucks are shed by then? I want to use my property in late dec and Jan for other things and I don't want neighbors firearm hunting when we are outside during this time either. Between the loss of habitat with higher commodity prices a few years ago and predators, numbers have already been dropping.
- 16059 I don't understand why Lafayette county was switched from shotgun only to allowing the use of rifles. Iowa is known for producing large bucks and I believe it's mainly for this reason. There's no reason to need a rifle that shoots 500+ yards for deer hunting. Give the deer a chance. Make hunters practice with their shotguns again. It's not fair to the deer when anyone can just go buy a gun and right out of the box it'll shoot 500 yards accurately. I believe a lot of deer end up wounded when hunters feel like they can shoot a mile. This isn't just my opinion, switching back to shotgun only seems to be the number one thing talked about by hunters in my area. We used to see 150s-160s bucks and it wasn't uncommon to hear of a +180s being harvested in and around my area. Now we're lucky to see a 140s. Very lucky to see a 150 class buck. Make Lafayette county like Iowa again. Thank you
- 16060 Earn-a-buck was the best deer management ever in this area. Too many hunters kill every little buck and let old does live so they can bear twins. I believe the sex ratio heavily favors does due to older hunters wanting to grow the deer herd. These older hunters also control large tracts of land which hold deer that never get hunted. Earn-a-buck created more quality bucks, a better rut, and a balanced herd. I support doe only season so buck can mature. I don't support holiday hunts for two reasons. First, mature bucks may be killed after they shed their antlers. Second, if you can't harvest does during the early season, what are your chances in the dead of winter? Lower.
- 16061 I would like to see the use of crossbows eliminated in the state of Wisconsin. They should not be included in the archery season. They are not a primitive weapon. The weapon can be shouldered like a rifle and uses telescopic sights. The crossbow does not have to be physically drawn just before the shot. Generally in my opinion the greatest advantage to the crossbow is that it does not have to be drawn just before the shot. When the bow is drawn back it creates the extra motion that the animal will usually detect. Also bow hunting has to be at very, very close range. The cross bow is more like a rifle than a primitive weapon.
- 16062 The deer population is too high with no predation. They do not have enough to eat during the winter and over browse our land and forests. With decreased cover due to over clearing for farming, the deer herd does really well in the summer but then is not well supported in the winter when all the crops come off. Not only do they over browse, but they also over concentrate in the small amounts of winter cover available which lend to spreading of diseases. In order to have a healthy population of deer and a healthy, sustainable ecosystem we need to decrease the current deer herd size in Lafayette county.



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- 16063 A holiday hunt is a completely ineffective hunting season. This hunt only hurts trophy hunting potential of the area since it's scientifically proved that most large bucks lose their antlers early in December which would make them legal targets during this hunting season. While the perception is the extra hunting season while give people more opportunities to shot an antler less deer this is a fallacy since the participation rate of hunters during the season is extremely low. Therefore there is next to no benefit for this hunting season to exist.
- 16064 I have talked with some snowmobilers concerned that if the holiday hunt existed and there was adequate snow landowners wouldn't allow trails to be open on their lands during a firearm season. I personally love to bow hunt during this time period over my food plots and would be upset at not having a chance to harvest a buck during this time period which coincides with my time off during the holidays!! I also feel that antlerless numbers in our sparsely wooded county are not that high and we don't need another gun season.
- 16065 There are too many deer in this unit and something more than the option presented need to be done to reduce deer numbers. The holiday hunt is not an effective way to accomplish this. Earn a buck or maybe that antlerless only season frame work would help kill more deer. Antlerless only for a year would really give us a crop of older bigger bucks the following year and maybe hunters would actually harvest some more does.
- 16066 My main concern is that we do not have the holiday hunt. The holiday hunt is too long and allows for deer to continue to be stressed. They made it through the gun and muzzleloader season and now have to deal with the holiday hunt. Making it very tough for bow hunters and for the deer to settle down. It also allows an opportunity for shed bucks to be killed, when we are trying to allow them to make it through the season.
- 16067 I would like to see a separate license for muzzle loaders. I would also like to more antlerless deer harvested. I think that the bow season is also one of the longest in the country could be shortened. May have a muzzle loader season later maybe end of December. A separate season license bow, gun, muzzle loader but only allow 2 bucks harvested
- 16068 Please do not offer a holiday hunt & increase the number of tags per license as this will adversely affect the number of deer harvested. The hunting pressure during the extended season will kill too many deer with their having to use food plots to live through January.
- 16069 I would love to see Wisconsin have two, and only two gun 4 day gun hunts. Something similar to what Illinois does! NO MORE HOLIDAY HUNTS!!! If nothing else the regular 9 day gun hunt is more than enough time to harvest a deer!
- 16070 We DO NOT need a holiday hunt. I looked at Iowa county and they want to decrease their deer herd and have voted not to have a holiday hunt. So why did you vote to have a holiday hunt when you want to maintain the herd?
- 16071 I feel as if we are maintaining the deer herd in Lafayette County then the Holiday Hunt is not needed. So I oppose having a Holiday hunt in 2018
- 16072 I like the earn a buck system. I saw and harvested more big mature bucks. It's not that hard to get a buck sticker. And stay ahead of the game.
- 16073 No holiday hunt, that season is not worth the headaches it causes. Crossbow season is Great! CDAC does a good service to hunters. Thanks
- 16074 Some land owners with snowmobile trails will shut trails down if we have winter hunting. I'm opposed to any hunting after 9 day gun hunt!
- 16075 Committee does not list to people who attend CDAC meetings. (Holiday hunt). Not favorable at meeting
- 16076 Just think that extending the season would kill a lot of shedded bucks.
- 16077 NO HOLIDAY HUNT EXTENDED SEASON CREATE NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS
- 16078 Strongly support a holiday hunt in Lafayette County.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

16079 Make the holiday hunt Buck only

16080 Bring back earn a buck

16081 NO HOLIDAY HUNT!!!!

16082 No holiday season

16083 no comment

16084 N/a

16085 No

18043



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Langlade, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

124 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 42
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 29
I hunt in this unit: 111
General interest in this unit: 24

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 108
Bow: 52
Crossbow: 49
Muzzleloader: 38

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 25.75
Maximum: 54

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 37
Mostly Private Land: 14
Public and Private Land About Equally: 13
Mostly Public Land: 13
Exclusively Public Land: 32
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 11
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 14
Somewhat crowded: 15
Very crowded: 26
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 14
Fewer: 24
Same: 35
More: 33
Many More: 14
Unsure: 4

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	5	3	33	33	48	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	3	24	43	45	5
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	10	20	32	51	3

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	7	110	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	69	45	9

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.84
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.63
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.20
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.43
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.27
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.34
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.22
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.52
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.62
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.25
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.58



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Comments for Langlade, Northern Forest

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16086 I have huge concerns with this upcoming season being placed with a no bait rule due to CWD in a connecting county. First, CWD is transferable through nose to nose, nose to butt, and saliva from what I understand. You are saying that bait will only spread this disease, however if you look at the big picture, with bait removal and the number of hunters that will not go hunt without aide will cause bigger issues with the spread of CWD and here is why. It is hard enough to harvest a deer with the aide that has been available, I know myself and our group of 20 plus all of our children will not go freeze in a tree hoping for a deer to stumble past close enough for a shot. I myself have 4 children with my youngest being 10. Last season he went out about 5 times and although deer were seen, there was not an opportunity for him to take a safe shot for a kill. That alone was extremely discouraging for him, I would think for any young child. Now you have all of us that won't waste our time in hopes for one to come in without bait, plus I'm sure many many more. Say CWD is in Langlade county.. These deer are still going to travel in groups, they will still go to fields and feed together, they will all still smell one another's butt, and they will still transfer nose to nose. Here's the difference.. Now you have thousands of hunters not in the woods to harvest, now instead of managing the CWD in kills, they will walk on and continue to infect all other deer it comes in contact with. Had that hunter been in that tree to harvest this deer, the spread from that one would have been put to a stop. But no one was there to harvest it.. Discouraged hunters if all ages will not be there for a harvest and in the long run CWD infected deer will have more opportunities to continue to spread. In turn the numbers will skyrocket! This is something I believe has always been in deer throughout the country, but now we have a computer giving it a name. Langlade county has finally had somewhat of a comeback in deer populations after the nonsense antlerless hunts for years. Hunters in this county have finally gotten the passion back in hopes that they will see something. People in my generation that have many children excited to hunt, to learn the responsibility of hunting, will be lost if this no bait rule isn't lifted. You will see increased spread of CWD, you will loose billions in revenue, and the passion for supporting hunting will be gone.

16087 My family hunts County land in the Town of Parrish. My grandfather, dad, an uncle and a couple friends started hunting the same woods in the early 50's. We have a lot of history in the area. In 2017 our group saw a few more deer, but the places we saw them were near where other hunters were baiting. Baiting should be banned statewide. It turns deer nocturnal and creates risk for the spread of diseases, such as CWD. I, myself, did not see a deer, which has been the case for 8 of the last 10 years. 10 years ago we saw 10-12 deer wolf kills each season. The last couple years we've seen none. I saw two sets of wolf tracks in the snow, but believe the larger pack has moved on due to the lack of prey. Bear and coyotes are plentiful and their population needs to be controlled. During the period when large numbers of bonus tags were handed out, or sold, I saw very little reproduction of plant species, such as Red Maple, Red Oak and Hemlock. I now see regeneration of these species throughout the woods, which tells me the deer population is very low. That, more than my lack of seeing deer while hunting influences my opinion on the deer population more than anything. I'm the third generation of my family to hunt in Langlade County. Today we're down to one generation. One member of the fourth generation comes to hunt with us. The old guys are gone and the young generation has no desire to sit in the cold woods without much chance of seeing deer. There used to be other such families hunting near us, too, but those families are down to 1-2 individuals of my generation. 20 years ago I used to worry about being crowded by other hunters on opening day. For the last 10 I don't see a soul. I know the closest other hunter to me is almost a mile away. I rather like that, but also would like to see a deer once in a while.



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- 16088 Hunting Langlade cty, since 1966. Have some very impressive hunts and buck pole pictures up to yr 2000. Than DNR started T-zones, earn a bucks, millions of bonus tags, antlerless, antlerless, anilating the deer herd. Hunting both sitting and driving became a waist of time and absolutely nolonger a traditional fun to look forward to. Yes the deer herd is on a come back BUT you've lost the number of hunters in the NORTH woods. In my early days, one of 3 things in 20 to no more than 40 mins, 1 you seen other hunters moving the deer around, 2 you heard gun shots ALL season long through the day, 3 you seen deer. Now maybe 4-6 shots on a opening day, see no other hunters resulting no deer movement during the day. Deer don't even know its gun season. Further you are closing the woods off by gating, bouldering or berming making road hunters who cannot penetrate the woods. I'm not for 4 wheelers tearing up the woods but 4wheel drive trucks staying on dormant logging roads allowed us to penetrate the woods for sitting and driving. The Wi. DNR has taken the fun out of the hunt, many and most echo days in the woods seeing nothing. Your not going to get youth hunters by lowering the age. You don't bake bread without flour. You don't deer hunt with out the deer. Buck poles are nothing more than pictures of past now. If you have hunters and deer hunting concern's STOP allowing the forest industry trumping the good ole wi. deer hunt, Give us back our 9 day traditional hunt.
- 16089 My comments are all concerning the northeast part of the County, old unit 43. I would agree that during the past 14 yrs that I have been in the unit, this past year was the highest deer sightings I have seen through out the year. I did have to brake a couple of times for deer crossing the road. But the northern forest section is still not up to adequate levels I think. I believe the forest could easily handle 5 - 10 more deer per square mile. While hunting, deer sightings are still very low. Maybe the southern section of the County is appropriate to have higher antlerless quota's but the forest area should have a minimal quota set. This is another reason that Langlade County should again be divided into two separate DMU's, as in the past. The deer habitat is vastly different. With the introduction of crossbows, the buck kill is really increasing. I know there are conversations in the works about the issue and something needs to be done, crossbows are not going anywhere now. I also think, because of the new licensing system, new rules, no tagging of deer and crossbows, there are more unreported deer kills happening. In closing, I am not in favor of increasing the antlerless quota and please look into dividing Langlade County into two DMU's. Thanks
- 16090 With the baiting ban in Oconto County and not Langlade County the past 2 seasons the hunter pressure all season - archery through Muzzleloader was higher then I've seen since the 1990's. A lot more deer where killed the past season then years past - especially year and half old bucks. I hunt the Crocker Hills area north of Elton and hunting is terrible. I have 2 sons I'm trying to get interested in hunting and not seeing deer -not having a chance to shoot a buck - and all the other hunters it's difficult to keep interest up. With the wolves, coyotes, bear and bobcats deer population on public property is getting bad. The eyes don't lie neither do cameras. Deer numbers and quality bucks are down on public property. If your goal is to rid the public property of deer and deer hunters in the near future - congratulation you're doing a great job. Deer numbers on public property are down and getting lower. Hopefully the baiting ban in Langlade County will ease the pressure and send hunters back to there original county and cause deer to move more during daylight. Feel antlerless tags should be at a minimum until herd goes up and with this long March April winter snow some more might be dying as I type.



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- 16091 I have hunted unit 43 for over 30 years and have seen a very high deer density in the 90's and early 2000. Had many successful seasons filling bonus tags but with that said I have seen what happens with a high deer kill from hunters coupled with a severe winter in a mostly forested area. I ask when setting bonus quotas that you consider the fact we just now are finally rebounding deer populations in this area after an extremely low population around year 2013. Now that the population is finally coming back please don't overharvest. I have a 10 year old son I'm trying to get interested in hunting and although I'd love to see him shoot deer I want him to see deer more and if we cut the deer population too low followed by a potentially severe winter it would be a difficult task for me to recruit my new hunter and maintain interest. I'm just saying in my 30 plus years of hunting I've experienced some the worse deer numbers the past 4 years so now that deer populations are coming back to a more "normal" level please don't overharvest with way to many bonus tags. My son and I don't need to shoot a deer for a successful hunt but i sure do want him to see deer in some numbers
- 16092 I support antlerless deer harvest but oppose numerous bonus antlerless tags. My concern is a large harvest followed by a potentially severe winter which would result in low deer population. I remember many great seasons in the 90s and early 2000's. I too took part in harvesting deer from bonus tag programs but about 5 years ago with the bonus tags and coupled with a severe winter it resulted in a decimated deer population. Only last year I noticed an increase in deer population back to a more "normal" level my fear is with bonus tags we may kill too many deer. The population in unit 43 is just now rebounding again please don't overharvest. I have a 10 year old son that I'm trying to get interested in deer hunting and the most important aspect is that he sees deer. If we knock the deer level as it was 2013ish I don't think he would maintain interest in the sport. So please when deciding level of bonus tags consider the fact we may have a severe winter and don't want to knock deer populations too low heading into that potential winter. I and my son don't need to shoot deer just would like the excitement seeing them too
- 16093 The deer numbers in public land NW of Elcho is still deplorable. If I were DNR managers I would be embarrassed. Our group has established a great tradition and the deer hunt is the highlight of my year and the same for many others. However, our kids who haven't as strong of a tradition have given up and I don't blame them. "Why should I take off work, work hard on the hunt and not see a deer?" They no longer go with us and some of the older guys in their 50s are considering hanging it up. I hunted 8 straight days and saw 4 deer while hunting hard including making group drives. Note that in my 30 years hunting on this land, when the No. of doe tags go up, the more folks from southern Langlade show up late in the week to do group drives so they can tag does away from their private land. Don't assume that tags are being used properly. I still think the public lands should be managed separately. I suggest zero doe tags again this year. If you don't agree, go out in the woods and look for tracks and scat!!!!
- 16094 I really don't understand why more deer permits are going to be given out in Langlade county. If there are concerns with too many deer, it has to be in the southern part of the county. THERE ARE NO DEER IN NORHTERN PART OF LANGLADE COUNTY. I saw 4 deer all week in the area of enterprise lake and parish townships. My days had me in different areas of that part of county. Hardly anyone saw any deer and the people that did were on bait piles which maybe attracted 2-3 deer. Sigh for deer was pretty much non exhistant also. The group I hunt with all work pretty hard during the week to attempt to find deer and see very few. I am afraid if people come into that area with antlerless tags at this point will wipe out population all toghether. How can deer reproduce if there aren't any deer to perform this. You talk about how the hunting is a valued part of north woods economy but the dnr actions seem to be the opposite actions. People aren't traveling to those area's anymore because their aren't any deer to hunt.



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- 16095 Our group of 8-10 hunters hunts 99% public land. We make group drives. We have seen an increase in deer numbers over the last few years and a decrease in hunter numbers. We see more road hunters and fewer hunters actually in the woods. The hunters we see are hunting over bait piles and all complain that they see no deer. There are deer out there but they have become nocturnal. If you don't move them you won't see any. Honestly I think one or two more re-building years would help the herd on public land. I think they should eliminate crop damage payments because personally I have never received permission to hunt farms that seem to have deer overpopulation problems. The land owner already has people hunting there or they take care of things themselves. Are they getting paid? Keep hunting simple and make it fun. Teach kids that all deer are trophies.
- 16096 I have been deer hunting for more than 40 years and hunt both bow and gun seasons. Because of the introduction of cross bows I can continue to enjoy Bow hunting. I hear there is concern about the number of bucks being take by cross bow hunters the past two years. This should not be a surprise. Cross bows are more accurate which means fewer lost deer to poor shots. How many deer where hit and never recovered by bow hunters the years before. The deer population has been going up the past two years because of the work by the CDACs so I would think more deer might be taken. I hunt exclusively private land for both gun and bow. I would not be in support of and changes to the crossbow season that would not allow me the same opportunities as bow hunters would have. Gun hunters still take more deer than all other types of deer hunting combined.
- 16097 public land is crowded near access areas. cutting off access via roads hurts hunting experience. I was hurt in Afghanistan and have a difficult time getting through to areas I used to hunt. all the roads have a camel back to restrict access. like most people we can't get to areas farther than a mile. drive around on opening day and you will see it. its making it hard for people to continue to hunt. MORE PEOPLE WOULD HUNT IF YOU OPENED UP THE ROADS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS! please do only buck only on public land. I have hunted this area my whole life. I really struggle with the deer heard numbers being as high as they are. I sit in a stand all fall and do not see the number of deer that I have seen in the past. I have deer that winter near my property. I have no deer damage. I see deer on private land but no one is hunting it.
- 16098 The herd has recovered from the low points several years ago. I think more tags should be offered to the public land. This county is 40% public land and only 25% of the tags are avaiable for public land. Increasing the number of doe tags is the right decision. This will give the herd a more balance buck to doe ratio, control the rising population, and create better quality deer. I bow hunt on public land in the northern half of the county, seeing too few deer is not an issue and being overrun with too many hunters is not a problem either. More tags on public land will also provide more oppertunities for hunters who do not have access to private hunting land. Additionally, the CWD find just into Lincoln county needs to be taken seriously. The Langlade CDAC should push the public to test as many deer as possible.
- 16099 I have hunted in the same area for 20 years and my grandfather and father over the last 70. U can not tell me that the numbers of antlered deer, harvested are anything close to what they were. I havent seen a fully grown buck in the last 15 years. Either there are way to many hunts and we are slaughtering the herds or your wolf populations are destroying them. There are to many special interest groups telling u what is an acceptable amount of deer and they are bought and paid for by big business. Also please log out the area where are hunt there is no longer under brush to support a habitat. Please restore hunting in the north woods to its glory and gain back the interest of future generations, in order to keep the tradition alive.
- 16100 A lot of hunters I know and have spoken with are taking matters into their own hands when it comes to doe tags since our voices are not being heard. Hunters are buying the tags just so others cant get them and use them. These same surveys were filled out last year, results were posted, and a high majority said the same thing in regards to doe tags; its way too much! You can not take that many does out of the Northern half of this county and expect to "maintain" population goals. There just isn't that many to take. I along with many others would love to harvest a doe but I also know that it will hurt the little population of deer we have in our area.



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- 16101 I have hunting in Langlade County on public land for six years, except for last year. I couldn't get a doe tag so I didn't make the trip to camp and hunt there. The county has ample land and deer, but doesn't allow public land hunters a chance to buy one. You should double or triple the number of public land doe tags and let hunters have an opportunity to harvest deer. Yes, the county is different in the north. That's where people won't buy a tag because they "don't see any does ever." That's fine. Let those of us in the southern part have a chance to put meat in the freezer without shooting small bucks all the time.
- 16102 On March 31, I called my Langlade County Office to report 73 deer in a herd on my farm DAILY for the past three weeks.... My call was relayed to the Wausau Office where an individual told me CWD must be controlled by limiting deer feeding by RESIDENTS enjoying the sights at their deer plot.. The heck with the small feed mills who desperately need this added revenue.... "We have to do something" ???????? HOW DOES THIS PREVENT CWD????? 73 deer in my herd "comingling" ..Told of over 100 on another farm 6 miles away...DNR ARROGANCE gone astray???? Please respond...
- 16103 First of all I think the goal of "maintain" should be changed to "increase". Our gun hunting party (4 people) saw 1 deer in 5 days on private wooded land with food plots. This is identical to what we have seen in each of the last 5 years. Trail camera pictures support the low deer count. Bow hunting I saw 3 deer in 21 days of hunting. Also, how can a "maintain" goal be raising the doe quota from 2000 to 3000. That is a 50% increase. I realize that permits issued does not equal harvest but I would think that maintain means don't raise it or lower it.
- 16104 Increase bear permits in this area, reduce wolf populations and control coyote populations. Introduce Elk to this area like has been done elsewhere in WI. Minimize predators and increase the Deer and Elk management. CWD being found on an adjacent county private land eliminating the bait ability will reduce the harvest. This practice needs to stop. Private herds should be doubled fenced to reduce interaction with natural herd and transmitting CWD. Stop penalizing those that had nothing to do with the issue and affecting our successful hunts.
- 16105 I can not see why the baiting issue is even an issue !! I can put a food plot and deer are nose to nose because food is abundant not like in the winter and deer "put up" with one another. Why not make it mandatory to spread the food out in an area of 10 sq. feet or so tell me the difference of that or a food plot !! I believe CWD has been around forever it's just now they are testing and not finding a whole lot too be concerned with. Pretty soon the state will not have any out of state hunters coming here to hunt NOT GOOD !!!
- 16106 I know at the initial meeting the deer biologist for the area felt it was going to be a moderate winter regarding severity index. However because of the past month of extended and extreme weather conditions I feel this should be closely looked at from adult deer mortality both from predation and starvation and fawn reproduction from adult does suffering from malnutrition. This has turned out to be a severe winter and could greatly affect the quantity of adult deer and fawns in the woods this next fall.
- 16107 3000 permits are way to many for the county. The northern part of the county has fewer deer numbers, then the southern part of the county. Just a few years ago {'09,'10,'14,'15} the county was Buck Only seasons, because the herd was down. Now with the permit numbers as high as you are submitting, the herd will be down to nothing again! If you want people to keep coming to the county to hunt, we need to look into dividing the county into North/South zones. Then the permits could be distributed correctly.
- 16108 I hunt public forest land. Although I had seen more deer during the 2017 gun season (5) than in 2016 (2), I believe there are way too many antlerless permits issued for public land. I had 5 game cameras out from August until the week before the deer gun season. I was disappointed in the number of pictures I got of individual deer, especially mature bucks as compared to some other years. The herd needs to be built up in the public forest areas so please take it easy on the does for a few years.



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- 16109 Why would it be suggested to increase the doe harvest by 1000 if we are trying to maintain the herd? Doesn't make any sense, wouldn't it make more sense to keep the doe harvest goal the same as the previous year. Especially with the prolonged winter that we are now enduring and the increased wolf population. The deer herd appeared to finally be increasing and now it feels like we are trying to eliminate it again with all the tags. Please take in consideration that we are MAINTAIN not DECREASE.
- 16110 Saw more deer in the fields before gun season but then very few during gun season. Our hunting group of 8 shot no deer and our neighbors kill was half of their previous years or less. Observed some small spikes and forks but no 6 point or larger bucks. Lot of bear in the area. Some wolf sign. Tracks. I believe a lot of hunters won't hunt our area this year or next with a feeding or baiting ban. Looking out of state instead. I own and or control about 400 acres in Langlade county.
- 16111 When I first started hunting this unit the unit was a buck only unit. For the years that the unit was buck only it helped to increase the number of deer that would see year to year. The unit now has antlerless tags available which is fine as long as there is not too many tags given out for the unit. The unit has improved some but still could be better, so we need to really think about how many antlerless tags are given out to keep improving the deer population.
- 16112 Antlerless season should be closed for a few years or start going back to party permits. To many people using junior tags to get a deer. CWD is a minor threat DNR WILL NOT STOP IT, It will take its course. TO MANY POACHERS Every year we are seeing deer shot off the roads especially in the town of Summit and less populated areas. Many farmers finding deer shot dead in their fields. No one is taking into account the amount of deer ILLEGALLY shot.
- 16113 Also with deer count still low in this area the only antlerless permit issued is to kids under 18. Also you want more hunters in the woods but every year you block off more roads to hunters and ATVs and make it door traffic. We'll talk to any hunter people not going to get off the main road that far. So you want more hunters and a young generation quiet closing roads off and open the ones that are blocked so hunters can hunt areas they did years ago.
- 16114 All deer farms in the entire state should be double fenced, at the owners cost. The public should not pay the price of their infected animals nor should we be punished by having baiting taken away. Apple Creek Whitetails had numerous CWD deer. Surrounding counties now have a bait ban, but Apple Creek Whitetails have gravity feeders right next to the fence (seen from Hwy. R), basically inviting outside deer to their deer.
- 16115 You don't get the credit you deserve for dealing with this issue. It seems that people always want to complain, just like paying taxes. No one likes the management of the herd, but we all appreciate the results. As an aside, I've been hearing an escalating number of hunters talk about not registering all of the deer they harvest, given the new system. They feel they can just blame technology and get away with poaching.
- 16116 Have seen a steady decrease in deer population in the past 4-5 years. Have seen an increase in predators in this same time period. Is there a correlation? I believe that there is a serious correlation!!! Had trail camera pictures of 13 different bears on my 40 acre plot, more wolf tracks and scat found than in the recent past. Same with coyote presence. TOO MANY PREDATORS!
- 16117 I have three young boys. I took my 9 year old second weekend last year to just sit with me. We saw nothing. I'm afraid they won't be interested in hunting if the population doesn't increase. I understand I hunt public land but when I started I saw deer all the time. For me it isn't about trophies, it's about the experiences in nature and an opportunity to harvest.
- 16118 We are just starting to see the bucks come back. But still not anything like it used to be. We don't even see a lot of Does. This was the first year I got a Buck during gun season. I only saw 2 bucks and 2 does, I hunted 5 full days starting on opening day. The population is still low. One good thing is I didn't see too many Wolf tracks like I have in the past years.



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- 16119 I have seen the deer population slightly grow over the past few years and I believe it has to do with not giving antlerless tags. I fully support no antlerless deer being harvested for at least 5 more years. I want to see that deer population be back to where it was 15 years ago, before all the antlerless hunts. Also, MAKE A WOLF SEASON AGAIN!!!!!!!!!!
- 16120 Out of my 7 years of hunting this last year has been by far the worst season for even seeing a deer. For the entire 2017 season I can count on one hand the number of deer seen in the stand. The deer population has decrease significantly to the point where I might not hunt for the next few years in Langlade County.
- 16121 There are too many predictors bear, wolves, coyote, and winter. I have seen an increase in deer numbers, but not close to where it was in the mid 90s. All the doe permits in the past also hurt the herd. I have sons and grand sons that I do not want to stop hunting because they see no deer for days at a time.
- 16122 Langlade County should be split using Highway 64 as dividing line. Also the length of winter/winter severity index this year should be taken into consideration for the number of antlerless tags being sold. Reduce the number of antlerless tags this year as there is going to be some winterkill.
- 16123 I think we need to do away with all the antlerless hunts. Enacting a minimum point rule (3 points or more on one side) for bucks would be a great thing. Upper Michigan did this a few years back and it really helped the deer population and cut down on the number of young bucks being taken.
- 16124 I have hunted Langlade county hard for 20 years. The number of deer sightings are still at an all time low. I believe that raising the antlerless quota is still a big mistake. I do not see any evidence of over-browsing on my 80 acres. I actually see little evidence of browsing at al.
- 16125 personally i feel with the winters and predator influence on this area, anterless deer harvest should not allowed until the deer population is increased. It takes way too long to recover from the natural deer losses much less allowing anterless harvests.(esspecially on the public lands.
- 16126 The amount of antlerless tags available for private land vs public land is not appropriate relative to the break down of ownership in the county. The antlerless quota will not be reached if the proportion of antless tags available for public lands is increased.
- 16127 Due to the amount of deer personally seen in the past three years, my view is to not sell any antlerless deer tags for a few years in Langlade County. I don't know how the deer harvest numbers have been that high considering the amount I have personally seen.
- 16128 Our group hunts public land and we make drives morning and afternoon every day except opening day. We're lucky if we see 4 to 6 deer for the season. Can't understand why there are any anterless tags on public land. Need to keep it buck only for 3 to 5 yrs.
- 16129 Even though I hunt private land, the mixture of public and private in Langlade County makes it difficult for hunters to determine their exact location while hunting. Consideration should be given to elimination of the public and private license confusion.
- 16130 Over the years I have been seeing fewer and fewer mature bucks. The number of bucks I see is very limited to begin with. In 2017 I saw one buck bow hunting and that was it. There are to many people hunting and shooting anything that walks bye.
- 16131 The CDAC needs to treat the northern forest land and southern farm lands as two different zones. The northern half of Langlade county should be buck only. The deer sighting and sign is still about the lowest I have seen in 42 years.
- 16132 Wolves are a big concern they are here now and will only become an even bigger problem without proper management. They have already killed two bear hounds in the county just imagine how many deer they have killed this winter.



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- 16133 Good Job Langlade County CDAC, it appears that the herd is indeed increasing in size again. While a bad winter could really change what has been gained again the plan you have proposed seems to be having the desired effect.
- 16134 Baiting should be allowed, without it the north woods is very hard too see deer.. population will go do to lack of kill during hunting seasons. Therefore CWD will spread quicker, which I hope no one wants.
- 16135 At some point we should look at the possibility of splitting the Northern Forest area off from any agricultural areas as this skews management for both crop land areas and true forest areas.
- 16136 To to sell 3000 quota and 8575 Bonus tags in Langlade county is not for maintaining the deer herd, its for destroying what's left of it. I for one will not be buying either in 2018.
- 16137 Too many local violators in this county. U can plant plots, trees ect. By the sept. Opener the #'s are down already. U cant win.
- 16138 Too many fawns being killed off with doe tags. A lot of the fawns are buck fawns and very low buck population.
- 16139 Refreshing to see the Langlade County CDAC believe in DNR numbers. SAK has a great track record.
- 16140 Too many wolfs and beer and bobcats. Although I see many deer also see many large deer eaters
- 16141 Too many wolves and bears...not many deer around and the ones you do see are scared/nervous.
- 16142 Cut the total deer population in the state by half. Only way to stop CWD.
- 16143 The population is down so you propose MORE doe tags to "maintain"? Absurd
- 16144 Need to bring back a wolf season for 2018.
- 16145 DO NOT make the crossbow season shorter!
- 16146 Seeing only one or two deer a year
- 18044



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Lincoln, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

111 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 53
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
I hunt in this unit: 98
General interest in this unit: 15

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 94
Bow: 55
Crossbow: 39
Muzzleloader: 40

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.11
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 42
Mostly Private Land: 17
Public and Private Land About Equally: 21
Mostly Public Land: 6
Exclusively Public Land: 12
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 13
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 16
Somewhat crowded: 7
Very crowded: 16
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 18
Fewer: 19
Same: 39
More: 27
Many More: 6
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	5	21	38	42	2



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	4	14	36	52	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	10	14	27	52	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	17	88	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	58	46	7

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.00
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.72
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.21
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.63
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.12
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.28
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.17
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.38
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.61
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.49
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.63



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Lincoln, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16147 My family and I have hunted in this deer management unit for generations and every year the number of deer decreases dramatically. The past two years none of the ten people in our group saw one deer all gun season and that is hunting all day every day for all nine days. I don't understand how the DNR could be considering bonus tags when there are no deer to begin with. They have killed all of the antlerless deer and in turn there are no fawns and therefore fewer and fewer bucks not to mention just deer in general. I take my son hunting with me and he has been hunting for four years and has yet to even see one deer. I am afraid our children are going to give up deer hunting since they sit in the woods for a week and never even see a deer. I personally believe that all of the excess antlerless tags in this unit for so many years have decimated the deer herd entirely. It is my hope that the DNR will listen to us as hunters and conservationists and reduce the number of antlerless tags in Lincoln county to allow the deer population to come back again. I would like to see at least one deer during the gun deer season if possible. I personally used to see 100-150 deer during gun season every year. Nothing has changed except that the deer are simply not there! Please help in improving Lincoln county deer numbers do that our children may enjoy the deer hunting traditions just as we did when we were kids.

16148 Lincoln County still has a problem with severely low deer densities in areas of large blocks like Newwood and the underdown. Wherever the wolf population can roam within large blocks, the deer are scarce. I agree that there are areas of healthy deer numbers, but they are in agriculture, and not as big as our forests. The estimated deer population was misjudged last year, and a correction has been made for this year; but we still want to kill more deer? Why would our bonus permits be more than Waupaca County 9000/7000? This Winter has been stated as "MILD". Please, reconsider this opinion. It is not a record, but it is an old fashioned Wisconsin Winter. I predict some losses before this one is all over (fawns or fetuses). I am not against shooting does; I am surely a doe hunter when they exist. I just saw so few of them during last bow season (and daily in the country) that I chose not to purchase a bonus tag. I am also one of the gun hunters who did not purchase a license in 2017. It was only the second WI gun hunt that I have ever skipped. I will hunt again. Please don't try to knock back the deer numbers again. I have Grandkids and Nephews to get out there and see what it should be like to see some deer.

16149 The limited amount of antlerless deer that have been harvested over the last few seasons has resulted in a very poor buck to doe ratio, which makes for poor hunting. In addition, limited doe permits results in more immature bucks being harvested, thus reducing the number of dominant bucks. From hunters I talk to in Lincoln County, mature buck sightings are rare. Deer numbers are strong throughout much of county. It is time to try to improve quality within the herd. Antler point restrictions should be considered if hunters are unwilling to harvest does. At a minimum, Lincoln County CDAC should provide enough antlerless permits that hunters can harvest does for meat and rather than shooting young bucks for "meat". Lastly, CWD should be taken seriously by this council as it threatens the sustainability of our herd and our hunting tradition.

16150 Changing the crossbow season? If the DNR wants us to harvest a deer then let the hunter make the decision to use a crossbow or vertical bow. Seriously? How about focusing on CWD in Lincoln County and deer farms and not about the bow issue. Lets keep changing the rules so it's so complicated that no one ever wants to hunt because they are afraid of doing something wrong. If you shorten the crossbow season I know several hunters that will stop hunting the bow season. That's not right. We do our best to recruit new hunters to the sport. If they choose the crossbow, have invested in a crossbow then let them hunt the same time frame as vertical bow. FYI-I use a vertical bow and I am just happy that others want to enjoy the hunt no matter what weapon they feel comfortable with. It's not all about the kill. Is it?



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- 16151 Even though there was a rebound of deer in the New Wood area of the county we are still well below what is normal and the carrying capacity of the territory. I am concerned about the recently developing length of this winter and its affects on the fawn crop for 2018. The winter morality rate may not be so bad due to the "Milder" nature of the winter but now as the does need to feed their unborn the winter is creating a bad situation. I think we need to return to or below 2017 quotas. I would really support the idea of seperating the northwest forested area of the county from the other 3/4 of the county which is much higher in agricultural and residential support. Areas above Hwy 64 and west of Hwy E constantly fight nature and predators worse than other areas with ag and need to be managed differently.
- 16152 There is no way the population supports such a high number of antlerless deer harvest, especially on public land. The predator population is out of control, and the herd has not recovered from recent bad winters and antlerless overharvest. The bait ban will result in more hunters leaving the sport, and is unfounded as having any measurable impact on the spread of CWD. The CDAC is supporting low deer numbers, poor buck age structure, and with the legislative rule regarding bait bans, it will result in public land hunters becoming even more frustrated. Private land hunters will benefit as food plots are legal. From 33 years of hunting southwestern Lincoln County, hunter population had reached historical highs and deer populations matching historical lows based on the thousands of acres I frequent.
- 16153 The number of antlerless permits and quota increase for 2018 is much to high considering this fragile deer heard that can be and has been impacted greatly by weather, predators and the miss-management of the antlerless deer heard in the last 15 years. The deer heard in Northern Wisconsin does not grow like grass, the winters are more severe which directly impacts deer health and the number of fawns that are born annually. I would suggest attempting to keep the population goals for this County slightly on the high side to prepare for another or multiple severe winters and the increase of predators which will impact the overall population which directly affects hunter satisfaction and the local economy.
- 16154 Regarding CWD concerns I have some thoughts to cosider. The intense sampling area should also include the area from Camp 10 up to the Three Lakes Deer Farm. There is a good chance the disease spread from Three Lakes to Camp 10 even though it is +-30 miles. Also, look at where manure from the deer farm is being spread onto fields in the area. Double fencing should be required on deer farms to limit contact with wild deer. Limiting the doe tags put a lot of pressure on bucks, especially young ones. Maybe put out a limited number of doe and buck tags in certain areas. Also, there can be alot of variability across each county. Consider putting out tags by township instead of by public and private.
- 16155 After a review of the information given I feel the Councils recommendation of giving out 9000 bonus tags is way to high and I do not think, by my review of the numbers, that the numbers given for review support that high number of bonus tags. The buck harvest was up 13% this shows an increase and may be our best indicator as this unit did not have many antlerless deer harvested in the past couple years. As this unit is in a maintenance position it seems to me that an increase of about 900 (15% increase) bonus tags would be sufficient to maintain the herd at the present level. That would mean offering about 7000 bonus tags would maintain the herd. Thanks for allowing me to comment.
- 16156 Totally disgusted with the low deer population in the north over the last decade. Our group of hunters has a cabin in Lincoln County. We have trapped, bow hunted and gun hunted for deer, and waterfowl hunted for close to 50 years in the north. We spend lots of time and cover lots of ground every year in the north and have a pretty good idea of wildlife populations. In our opinion the deer herd is much too low in this area. The sportsmen in the state over the years were telling the DNR that the deer herd was down in the north, but their concerns fell on deaf ears. There may be a need for antlerless hunting in southern Lincoln County, but for the most part not north of Highway 64.



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- 16157 I believe the unit is where it should be. Meaning, where I hunt I feel the numbers are appropriate for the available deer range. I cannot support a higher antler less harvest as I question the accuracy of the numbers being reported. Based on the reported numbers, I feel the antler less quota is adequate to support maintaining and possibly growing the herd. Moving away from baiting and feeding will have a direct impact on harvest numbers. Ending the youth hunt and the group hunting law would also have positive impacts on the herd. I predict the youth numbers will be down 40% with baiting. That is more deer making it into the traditional Wisconsin 9 day deer hunt.
- 16158 You have developed a no baiting, in areas with CWD. This is not working as the counties with CWD is still increasing. It would make more sense to bait the deer to bring them in for hunters to shoot them! Deer move around and come in contact with one another no matter what you do! Allow baiting so deer come to hunters and increase permits so deer can be killed that is the only way to slow contact and spread of this CWD! Any county that has CWD should have unlimited deer tags available to help get rid of this disease caring animals. Lets take a new approach to eliminating CWD in Wisconsin! The plan we have currently is NOT WORKING!!!!!!
- 16159 IT WOULD BE NICE TO MAINTAIN POPULATION LEVELS RATHER THAN HIGH AND THEN LOW THEN HIGH, ETC. A PLAN TO MAINTAIN SHOULD BE ENTERTAINED. HARVESTING DOE WHEN THE ARE PREGNANT SHOULD BE LOOKED AT... COUNTIES THAT DO NOT ALLOW HARVESTING AFTER THE RUT SEEM TO MAINTAIN A BETTER HEARD CONTROL. I BELIEVE THAT A DEER HAS YET TO ACTUALLY DIE FROM CWD... THEREFORE I QUESTION WHY WE HAVE STRICT FEEDING RULES ESPECIALLY WHEN MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE REPORTING THAT THE DEER WAS KILLED IN ONE PLACE BUT THEY SEEM TO HUNT, LIVE AND REGISTER THE DEER IN ANOTHER COUNTY, MAKES ME WONDER ACCURACY OF ANY OF THE DATA. THANKS FOR LISTENING
- 16160 Several years ago we had no antlerless tags which as hunters we saw as a sign of a attempt to increase numbers. The very next year and moving forward we have been increasing tags at an alarming rate. This has been a difficult winter especially with April snowstorms. For some reason the baiting/feeding ban took effect on Feb 1. This is the most difficult time for deer to make it through. Why that date isn't April 1 is beyond me. No matter where you stand on the baiting issue anyone who knows anything about deer mortality issues knows that Feb 1 is a horrible date to cut these deer off and force them to find feed!
- 16161 Deer populations in the Merrill area where there is agriculture are much better than they are in the county forests of the north west part of the county. We are over run with wolves and letting people take antlerless deer only compounds that problem. Last year it was tough to even get a small 8 point buck on camera let alone see one hunting. I passed up 1 buck that was a spike in all of bow and rifle season. As far as I am concerned the deer management decisions have ruined hunting. It is nearly impossible to get kids interested in hunting when you can sit for days and see nothing, and that was with bait.
- 16162 Based upon my personal trips to my hunting area this winter and spring, I believe the antlerless quota for public land should be no more than 15% and 85% for private. The quota being 3150 antlerless deer for Lincoln County means (based on the DNR success rate of 33%) the quota for public land would be (15%) 475 antlerless deer or 1425 permits available and for private land (85%) 2675 antlerless deer or 8025 permits available. I do not believe the DNR numbers are accurate for the number of deer in Lincoln County public land. The deer numbers people say they are seeing along the roads are private land numbers.
- 16163 I feel the only people that should have a say in what is happening with the deer heard is the people paying a fee to hunt them. Farmers are crying about loss do to deer maybe their land should be open for hunting if they receive any help from the gov. and they should have to post signs on all their property saying so or have sign in spots like I use out west on crop damaged property. Also if the managing body feels there are too many deer the tags should be free like they are in Nebraska instead of taxing the hunter for the gain of the non hunter.



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- 16164 '-more bonus tags means more risk of shooting the upcoming bucks that are mistake for does/antlerless. -with feeding/baiting bans in place for the next three years there will be a better chance to see more deer and harvest more deer as they should be spread out more widely. -managing the herd should not only be based on quantity but also quality...meaning more mature bucks. -considering discussing and/or implementing a minimum point for buck harvest. -hopefully more patrolling planned to enforce the baiting/feeding ban for the ongoing offenders
- 16165 Not sure why this is being asked. DNR has not listened to the years of concerns brought forth by the public. Have destroyed deer hunting in the north and its not much better in the south. Your own concern over the verbal feedback you may receive from this survey speaks volumes to how the DNR knows the public has felt over many years of mismanagement and, yet nothing changes. You cant expect young hunters continuing this tradition when they go out into the woods and do not see deer, or even tracks.
- 16166 My pet peeve is bonus permits. I pay \$165 for a patrons licence yet have to spend another \$12 if I want to shoot a doe on land that I manage & pay taxes on. Why can't the bow licence include an either sex tag as in years past? This isn't about herd management - it's about money! (3150 x \$12=\$37,800!) I really like the electronic registration, when registering your kill include where the hunter can get CWD testing within that DMU we need to get a handle on this asap.
- 16167 During the past 14 years of hunting Lincoln Cty Wisconsin, the deer numbers seem to be a bit low with a very prominent buck:doe ratio. That being said, I usually see more bucks per season than I do does. I feel that limiting the doe harvest this year will not only help increase the population (as I have found 3 dead doe on my 160 acre property from winter kill this year already) but also make this ratio much more balanced and healthy.
- 16168 The sadifaction to me is seeing deer and maybe havesting a deer. But the reality of it is i do not have to spend my money to buy a tag to enjoy my property and not see any deer.so why pay a tax for something i can do anyway for free and have use that money to go and hunt out of state and see the animals i want too and maybe harvest one.This state needs to work for the people paying them the sportsmen and their fees (tax). Thank you
- 16169 I believe the dnr should stop waisting time and money on cwd. Should be more worried about keeping kids interested in hunting and fishing.Banning feeding and baiting is the worst thing ever has nothing to do with cwd deer are herding animals. It's absolutely ridiculous you the dnr think you can tell people they can't feed or bait the deer on their own private land a very high number of people are fed up with the dnr.
- 16170 For the first time in years I have started to see several deer during my hunts. By once again increasing the number of deer to be harvested will once again diminish the population and make sighting much lower. An increased doe population allows for greater reproduction and the likelihood of increased buck population. Reducing the heard to low levels takes away hunter ambition to engage in the sport.
- 16171 I don't understand how you can say the goal is to maintain the herd but you want to give out 3000 more permits than last year? Last year there were too many tags issued and the anterless kill was higher than the herd can support. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to attend the meetings, and comment and not be heard in our comments. Please listen to the comments and surveys PLEASE
- 16172 The winter severity index though March was in the mid 40s for both Tomahawk and Merrill. April brought heavy snow that I believe may push the index over 50 which puts it in the Moderate range, so there may be some negative effects on the deer herd. With this in mind I suggest the quota be set at 2550. Private tags 6500 (6500 x .3 =1950) and public tags 1500 (1500 x .4 = 600)
- 16173 I was at the last cdac meeting and the forestry dept. is way off about rhe deer eating all the trees. The trees cycle though the forest stages and if you really look at our forest we have a very diverse forest ecosystem. Just because some trees are in the decline it might be because of environmental causes like gobal warming and climate change and human interaction .



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16174 The deer hunting in Lincoln county has been sub par in the last 10 years and I believe the herd needs to built up more. I would agree to have 3 more years of buck only hunts. I don't see the deer numbers like I did in the early 2000s. Would like the younger generations be able to see the deer I saw in the 1990s. This is part of the reason Hunter numbers are declining.
- 16175 Still with no wolf season in sight it is unbelievable that the CDAC would even consider raising the number of doe permits available. Not sure where you guys hunt but I'm a serious hunter and there is no way that this area can shoot that many does and maintain the herd. I hate to say it but this was better run when the DNR ran this program.
- 16176 I don't really believe the department found a CWD infected deer in Lincoln County. Food plots versus baiting. What's the difference? Get rid of all deer farms. If you think baiting is a problem (I really don't think you do!) Then you need to halt all baiting which means all agriculture. I will always follow the money with your laws.
- 16177 I feel we should be trying to increase the deer herd in Lincoln county, instead of just maintaining it at this low level. The proposed quota for antlered deer is way to high. I am a property owner in this county and have just had a timber harvest to help GROW the deer herd. It would make more sense to have a only buck season in 2018.
- 16178 Why wasn't high fence game farm program eliminated the first time CWD was discovered? Since that program has not been eliminated I get the impression that CWD is a useful tool to feed the wolf population. I now spend more time hunting and fishing out of state where wildlife management is more oriented and friendly toward sportsmen.
- 16179 the deer numbers have fallen drastically with all the hunting seasons, predators and all the antlerless tags being sold! we can not expect to get younger hunters out there when they see no deer. I have seen more Bear in the last couple of years than I have seen deer. Hopefully we can do some thing about the issue. Thank you!
- 16180 I just find it interesting that the permit numbers have been increasing for Lincoln county while the number of deer seen on our property during the gun season has been decreasing. Hopefully the baiting ban will help by spreading the deer heard out rather than hurt by deer completely avoiding our property.
- 16181 I don't think there are any more deer this year than last year. Maybe after we see mortality from this extended spring cold and heavy multiple snows, we will see less. Why increase the quota over last year's? We didn't even reach our quota with last year's lesser number of doe tags.
- 16182 Last year seemed to be the perfect quota for a bow hunter, I was able to harvest 2 deer and a friend harvested 1 off of my 20 acre parcel. And we still saw plenty more deer. If I had to make a recommendation, I would choose to keep the antlerless the same as last year
- 16183 You seem driven to attract youth and tourism to the season, How about some deer numbers to keep their attention span long enuff to keep them from their cell phones! Youth and adults alike are loosing their love of the sport I fear, in favor of your favorite LOBBIEST.
- 16184 I believe the numbers are on the way back up in the northern forest region but are still not at an acceptable level. Also I am a very strong advocate on banning baiting and feeding state wide. I think baiting and feeding is hurting our deer herd immensely. Thanks
- 16185 Deer populations are way above where they should be. As a Christmas tree farmer, I'm experiencing very high-dollar damages to my plantings that have been in the ground for 1-5 years. Almost all of the 18,000 trees planted in 2017 are now severely deer damaged.
- 16186 20+ years hunting on private land saw 40+ deer a year with our hunting group. Now after 20 years later we see 5-8 a yr. 6 hunters left to hunt in southern and Western counties. Now I have 2 hunters. Leave the does 1000 or less for the next 3 yrs.



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- 16187 Last year was another dismal year in an area where deer had been plentiful until about four years ago. I understand a variety of reasons for this change, but I feel issuing so many permits and having so many opportunities (seasons) isn't helping.
- 16188 Concern is that because of the mild winter deer herd may grow even though snowfalls have come at the end. Do not want to see deer die due to winter stress in 2018-19 and would rather see them shot. Would also want fewer car killed deer.
- 16189 I believe increasing the antlerless tags to this amount is to high and believe somewhere around 7000 total is adequate to maintain the population. I am fine with changing the split to a 80 private/ 20 public
- 16190 I do not understand why there is a youth hunt in our state.I cannot believe that you truly feel most of the deer harvested are taken by youth and not adults.
- 16191 Would love to see an antler size restriction to allow for 1 and 2 year bucks to grow and get bigger. 6 point or better to shoot a buck would be great!
- 16192 Crossbow hunting season should be limited to promote and maintain the tradition of bow hunting in Wisconsin except in cases of disability or 65+
- 16193 Deer numbers are just coming back. Please no not issue to many anterless tags. Reduce your suggested number.
- 16194 Not sure how you maintain the deer herd when you keep pushing out more and more doe tags every year.
- 16195 Overall I believe this is too high of an increase of tags available for antlerless.
- 16196 Need to rebuild the population more before offering more antlerless tags.
- 16197 I don't think the private and public permits are necessary.
- 16198 WAYYYYYYYY too many antlerless tags!!!!!!
- 16199 Proposal looks good
- 18045



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Manitowoc, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

91 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 68
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
I hunt in this unit: 75
General interest in this unit: 14

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 68
Bow: 39
Crossbow: 37
Muzzleloader: 40

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 28.31
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 53
Mostly Private Land: 10
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 12
Fewer: 19
Same: 42
More: 11
Many More: 4
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	6	40	23	18	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	6	40	30	8	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	9	47	16	12	6
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	7	14	44	0	2	24
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	5	15	45	0	2	24

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	6	50	33	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	9	51	12	19

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	28	56	7
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	48	37	6
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	10	73	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.29
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.85
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.29
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.67
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.09
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.47
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.53
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.05
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.44
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.22



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Manitowoc, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16200 I do support an antlerless only deer season in my area. In the last two years I have seen a dramatic increase in the antlerless population. So much so that I have seen deer in large groups grazing on my harvested soybean fields this winter every day. I see groups coming from a mile away at dusk to eat as well as the deer that winter in my woods. I am not as concerned with crop damage throughout the year as I am with the destruction of the woods during the winter. The cedar trees are especially taking a severe beating on my wooded land. The deer are even eating as high as they can reach on my neighbor's cedar hedge around his property and destroying the hedge. I participate in a deer management group with other land owners in my area. They also say there are too many does in the area. We have talked about the high antlerless population for several years now. I only mention the management group I participate in because it represents a huge area of land and many landowners. On other private land I hunt with friends that is not managed the doe population is also high. I think a lot of people on private land just want one deer so they wait for a buck adding to the problem. Part of the problem of high antlerless populations on private land is the decline of groups of people doing deer drives. The deer don't get pushed around to other properties. The deer just stay put. I understand it has been suggested that only you can shoot your deer. I feel that would lead to an even higher population. I don't really want to see an antlerless only season on the public land because I feel in my area the public land doesn't have nearly the deer population the private land has because of the amount of hunters shooting deer on the public land. People criticize me for saying there are too many deer on my land yet I don't allow non family members to hunt on my land. To that I say I am fortunate to have my own land, yes, but at the same time I don't want to have to deal with strangers on my farm. I don't want to have to worry about who is coming and going. When I want to hunt I don't want to limit where I hunt on my property because I gave someone permission and now I have to avoid that area. After all it is my land. I don't think there is an easy answer to keeping good deer populations on public land and reducing the private land deer population.

16201 The main thing that I have noticed with deer habitat the last decade is the fact that deer movements become more and more nocturnal as summer turns into fall. The land I hunt has extremely little hunting pressure. My trips into the woods is about once every two weeks to check trail cameras. My observations with trail cameras start in early August and I keep the cameras out til Christmas. All buck movements are nocturnal especially in November with majority of trail camera pictures taken between 10 pm and 4 am. I do see deer on the cameras and have trail cameras along my woods bordering farm fields but do not believe deer are over populated. What I believe is that the deer population is, and has become creatures of the night like a raccoon. It is rather frustrating to hunt a full day not seeing a single deer, then next morning view a trail camera to see deer hanging around my hunting area during the night. I clearly know that there is nothing that a rule change can do to change deer being nocturnal. I'm just letting you know what I am seeing in the habitat of the deer population. Thank you for reading this and don't ever put earn a buck back into play.



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- 16202 I have hunted our family's property (226 acres in the Killsnake Wildlife Area) for the last 37 years, and went along with my dad starting at the age of 8 yrs old. I now have a stepson and 2 young nephews that hunt with us, and I feel sorry for them...The deer numbers have dropped off so much that it is crazy ! There is absolutely no reason to kill the number of does that are being killed. Our group is made up of hunters that know the land and how to hunt. We spend a lot of time in the woods and the deer numbers on our property are the lowest that they have EVER been. We don't shoot does, and neither should anyone else ! The young guys in our group hunt very hard and have very little to show for it, because the deer just are not there. It is no wonder why the number of hunters is declining.....It is hard to keep their interest in the sport. We have considered selling our property, and buying land elsewhere. If the deer numbers drop anymore, we will be doing that. I am not alone with this opinion, and it's about time that the DNR listens to the guys that actually know what they are talking about !
- 16203 The main issue that is not addressed and will be difficult to overcome is the large tracts of land not being hunting or off limits to hunting. There are a number of game farms with substantial acreage in the county. Deer are rather smart and take to these areas when the pressure is on. Car deer accidents are often a result of inattentive driving. Growing up in rural Wisconsin we were taught to watch. Today, the overwhelming use of cellphones drivers are increasingly unaware of their surrounds (note, I drive 200 miles/day for work. A fair observation) Finally, hunting has changed over the years. In the past there were 200,000+ more hunters in the woods. This makes the deer move more and easier to spot. Equipment has gotten so good that a clean shot should be the norm versus the older foster slugs and accuracy concern. Good news less wounded deer after the season. Bad news fewer hunters in the woods later in the season.
- 16204 If the herd needs to be lowered the success rate of hunters needs to go up. Maybe allow baiting in Manitowoc county, I know county ordinance prohibits. Give the muzzleloader guy a fair chance at a hunt, maybe a early hunt. Hunt dates before bow season? Muzzleloader season is a waist as is bow after gun season. Your elimination of a whole month of December because of gun season deer become very nocturnal due to high pressure. I understand keeping a herd in check but private land hunters will do with what they want with "their " deer. Maybe get hunters excited about a warm weather muzzleloader hunt. What a great opportunity to harvest a velvet buck, think about it many states do this with a bow or muzzleloader season. DNR needs to get hunters back to that fuzzy feeling about hunting not eliminating the herd or reducing to a point of only seeing 1-4 deer a season. Thanks for your time
- 16205 I am strongly against creating the Metro zone, metro zone should be kept within a couple of miles of urban areas and not expanded to a large chunk of the county. If county roads are needed for boundaries then this should be pushed backed to the DNR/Legislature as its a poor tool!! Creating longer hunting seasons in the METRO area and adding more hunting pressure will only create or enhance more hot spots with in this area. I believe many land owners within this metro zone will have a very guarded approach to letting hunters on there land with a lot more outside pressure coming in. The expanded bow season will also conflict with other hunting/ outdoor activities on private land as landowners that deer hunt do not want you on there land till bow season is over. If the goal is to decrease the deer heard why allow buck harvest within these areas during these extended seasons?
- 16206 Thank you for avoiding a holiday hunt. If it had been recommended I would have closed our excess acreage currently mfl-open to mfl closed in a heart beat. Certainly don't mind additional deer harvest but gun season is getting much to long and really dampens other activities. I see wala-hi mentioned in report, couldn't that be opened to bow hunters in late season when most other uses slow down? Maybe a lottery system for residents? I've heard town of Wilson in sheboygan county is having great success with that system. Could be used with a fee to increase revenue for the park system



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16207 would be nice to see a antler restriction enforced- example- say only buck to legally take is one with at least 4 points on a side and at least one brow tine. this would force people to shoot more does if they want to harvest a deer, there fore encourageing larger bucks in the future seasons. maybe this is the wrong format- but also raise the non resident deer hunting license fees- most other states tags cost 2 to 3 times what our non res tags cost and we have just as good if not better hunting here.
- 16208 The CDAC nor the DNR know the number of deer in the metro zone, creating this zone without any data is not sound management. Theres more crop damage tags issued outside of the metro zone then inside. If the metro zone had different options/more tools at it's disposal it might not be bad, but it doesnt!! Please remove the metro zone or have it just around the two major cities....not running along the eastern third of the county. ELIMINATE THE METRO ZONE!!
- 16209 We have high concentrations of deer in pockets of land both public and private that is not accessable to hunters. That is causing the deer numbers to seem higher than they really are or should be. Power plant land, parks and school woods need to be opened up to deer hunting in order to effectively manage the herd. The biggest challenge is trying to gain access to property to hunt. A lot of the current public areas have very low deer numbers.
- 16210 The council should be able to manage the antlerless tags on pubic and private land. Example maybe none on public and maybe 2 or 3 on private. They should also be able to allow a holiday hunt in metro zones but not allow it in the rest of the unit if the population does not justify it. It does not seem like the council has much for management tools right now to manage the population in their unit.
- 16211 I feel that an additional 3 tags for the metro unit is far better than 1. Limited access to the land involved means fewer hunters. Fewer hunters must harvest multiple deer. I personally would shoot 5 to 7 deer for my personal use. We should also have a Holiday Hunt in the metro zone as most of the land is private. Why not allow property owners and those who have access more opportunities?
- 16212 ive been bowhunting for 25yrs this is what I do year round think about bowhunting now my back and shoulders are bothering me so I went out bought a crossbow so I could continue doing what I love I hear rumors about taking my life away and giving me only 9 days to do what I love could you direct me on what I can do about this thank you greg kuether
- 16213 Since it is impossible to please every hunter today, I truly believe the committee is doing the best job possible for us hunters. I wish that the DNR make it clear to the public, it's the CDAC committee that sets the harvest amounts, not the DNR, okay. Our committee does one hell of a bang up job explaining everything to all the hunters in attendance. Thank you.
- 16214 To many people are taking advantage of having extra antlerless tags and using within a group or sharing. People need to stop shooting everything that is brown and look at what they are shooting. Proper DEER MANAGEMENT is key for everyone to enjoy the sport of hunting for generations to come. Offer better deer management information and properly educate people.
- 16215 I would like to see the county allowing feeding deer, mainly to encourage more youth to get involved. Youth tend to get discouraged if they do not see deer or get close enough to have a chance to harvest a deer. More deer would also be harvested by adults,in my opinion, also which would help in reducing deer numbers to management level.
- 16216 Access to where the higher, localized deer populations are is a challenge. For the property I own and hunt on I feel adequate antlerless harvest occurs to maintain a healty herd and unfortunately saw 3 antlerless deer killed on road that forms my Northern border. The CDAC recommendations are aligned with my management goals.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16217 I believe that the ability to provide metro in city tages to hunters needs to be highly considered. deer populations have grown within city limits and have been widely decreasing elsewhere. placing tages on a lottery rotation for bow hunting only. 90% of all vehicle accidents and property damage is not in country settings!
- 16218 I have heard rumors of potentially scaling back on who can use a crossbow in Wisconsin. I believe that would be a mistake. I am currently trying to mentor my daughters and they would prefer not to use a gun. Taking that away from them or making special crossbow only rules would hurt their chances to hunt.
- 16219 I think if we can not bait because of the ordinance, because of cwd then I believe that all food plots should be stopped also. If you have a plot that is small and a large number of deer come to it I believe the potential of cwd would be the same. I think the county should allow both or close all.
- 16220 I live within a mile of Manitowoc. I have found 3 fresh coyote killed deer in the last 2 weeks (end of March 18). I think a deep snow winter would reduce the deer herd volume below target due to lack of food (crop) and the coyotes will kill 1000 easy. the 3 dead deer were just on my 30 acres.
- 16221 Too much private land that is unexcessable to hunters. Or is only hunted lightly by owners. Public land is over crowded. One shot and deer go running to private lands where they are not hunted. Or hunting is banned. City limits? Suburbs. Golf courses. Parks, Nature centers,
- 16222 In the 2016 deer season in Manitowoc county, i seen 5 antlered deer and in the teens of antlerless. In 2017.... one antlerless observed. Trail cameras have not captured a single deer after the gun deer season thru march of 2018. The deer population seems very low.
- 16223 Instead of trying to install all of these silly deer hunting seasons, extend the traditional gun deer season to include three weekends. Either start the season earlier or extend it. Why is the muzzle loader only season exclusive, this seems silly?
- 16224 Please reconsider having the Holiday Hunt. With the added opportunity to bow hunt all deer in January, there is no reason to prohibit gun hunting families from having that additional week. The county is falling short on antlerless harvest.
- 16225 We are all deer hunters one big family we all go buy our buddies to see his trophy. What does it matter what he got it with. As long as he has a smile on his face so just leave the seasons alone thanks for listening
- 16226 i also oppose eliminating group deer hunt speculating that someone will handle a firearm safely based on an online test and there age is ridiculous crossbows season should run with gun or muzzle loader not bow
- 16227 I'm strongly against the current Metro zone expanding to the county line. Please look at running the north boundary no further then County road V from Mishicot east to the Lake Michigan.
- 16228 The deer herd in Manitowoc County has been going down significantly over the last 10 years. Hunters have stopped hunting, the younger generation has limited interest.
- 16229 Offer more tags and allow for more opportunity for hunting. Having a low number of tags makes hunters think there's a low number of deer. They are like rabbits.
- 16230 I think we should bring back baiting in Manitowoc county. And have more pulic land to hunt on. And if there is have maps out so we know where the pulic land is
- 16231 I believe Earn-a-Buck should be reinstated as a tool to help reduce the population in certain areas of the county with overpopulation issues.
- 16232 I do not see an increase in our deer herd annually so I believe the neighbors and predators are doing a good job of reducing the numbers.
- 16233 Introducing Grey Wolves into multiple areas of Wisconsin to control deer populations is WRONG on all levels!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



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16234 The past years I have seen more turkeys and raccoon damaging farmers crops. I would like to see crop damage tags decrease.

16235 Eliminate crop damage tags in area. My opinion more damage is being done by raccoons geese and sandhill cranes.

16236 Please consider a crossbow season only allowed during gun unless the hunter is of a disability

16237 How many deer were tested for CWD?

18046



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Marathon, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

156 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 105
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
I hunt in this unit: 128
General interest in this unit: 27

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 117
Bow: 75
Crossbow: 56
Muzzleloader: 52

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.35
Maximum: 56

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 81
Mostly Private Land: 19
Public and Private Land About Equally: 15
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 8
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 20
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
Somewhat crowded: 6
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 28
Fewer: 46
Same: 45
More: 29
Many More: 3
Unsure: 5

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	5	14	73	36	25	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	14	62	43	30	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	12	21	110	4	1	8
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	19	100	34	3
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	31	103	22
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	60	79	17
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	14	130	12
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.69
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.91
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.37
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.59
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.36
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.41
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.49
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.51
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.99
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.57



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Marathon, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16238 I have hunted and lived in SE Marathon County for many years. Back in the 90's the population was too high but in the last 7 years is too low...we have to establish a happy medium. The first year I hunted my current area (1988) I saw 115 deer within 75 yards during the first 2.5 days of season...last year I saw 5 all week (at any distance). This is ludicrous. In the area I hunt and used to live is the Town of Frazen in SE Marathon County. One of the biggest things that has adversely effected the population is the Ag damage program. Way too many permits are issued and way too much reimbursement is being dolled out. When I talk to the farmers where I hunt, most of them would not apply for permits if they weren't being awarded damage money...They simply do not have that much damage. If you offer a farmer from \$2500-\$5000 to shoot 15-20 deer he is going to take it...I don't blame them I blame a system. In nearby Shawano County where the program is administered by the county (a person whose job is not dependent on the Ag damage program) They issue tags if requested but very rarely offer payments...and their population is twice what it is in Frazen (SE Marathon County). I used to live on the farm where I hunt...when I lived there the person running the program for that area used (may not be the current person) to call up like a used car salesman offering to give us money if we enrolled in the program...this is not right. If you look at the number of permits in our area compared to neighboring areas where the deer density is much higher there is a night and day difference...this has to stop. There are a significant number of deer hit by autos...I have hit a couple myself. The solution is not to reduce the population. People need to slow down and stay off the phone...Maybe there should be more education and less blaming the deer population. People are getting frustrated with not seeing deer during the season. Deer hunting is a huge economic engine for the state. We need to strike a happy medium between the excess populations of the 80's/90's and the current deer desert.

16239 I have hunted in the Hewitt - Harrison wildlife area for over 40 years. Since the advent of such programs as Earn-a-Buck and the early doe season the deer numbers in my area have plummeted. I have first hand knowledge of hunters from other areas coming to this wildlife area strictly to kill a doe. Additionally I also know hunters that believe that if the DNR says to shoot antler less deer then they will shoot every last one of them they legally can regardless of future consequences. My reality is that I have to measure a successful gun hunt by whether I even see a deer, forget thinking about getting one, and I am not alone! Three of the last 4 years I did not even see a deer but still every hunter in Marathon County gets a free doe tag? How long do you expect the hunting public to commit time and financial resources to this activity given this reality? This has to be contributing to the decrease in hunter numbers that we are seeing in Wisconsin. Within a relatively short number of years my hunting days will be over. Then the hunting heritage in my family will be gone, not picked up by any of my kids. Because what does hunting offer them that they can't get through bird watching? That is about all it has amounted to for me for more years than I would care to remember!



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- 16240 For my hunting unit, I continually see fewer deer. I don't have a real problem with predators where I hunt, but that doesn't mean there isn't a factor. I also feel that the big issue with crossbows, is a bunch of bull. What about the new compound bows that claim they can consistently shoot a 100 yds or more..is that not the same? You are worried about CWD in areas where deer congregate over bait, what about food plots? Where do you see any deer? where the food is readily available. Go back to hunting like before. No season of any kind for a week before gun season, one week of muzzleloader season after regular gun, and no more Bow hunting, of any kind after that. I admit that some areas may have more deer than others, but this is usually because of the "taste" food plots they get to eat from. I am a hunter instructor, and it is really hard to get young or older people interested and retain them as hunters because of the mixed feelings of the long seasons for some things and the inability to attract deer when there is no food plot in the area where you hunt. This is a problem that will only get worse if influences against crossbows, baiting, length of seasons, and quotas is not changed.
- 16241 In the past years the DNR used to have it where 4 hunters applied for a doe or antlerless for a fee and that seemed to help with the doe population. Now with all the antlerless permits given people who own private land just go onto public land and shoots anything that is brown and down. This way they save the deer on their land. If the private land deer population is over populated, then issue extra permits to the land owner more if they have more than 80 acres for family members only. The deer in Wisconsin are getting to be all bambi's because of shooting all the antlerless deer. And most fawns are bucks which are the next year of bucks to be hunted or killed. If we want quality bucks to hunt we need the very off springs to even grow up. Out west some of the states even have a point restriction on bucks so that they can grow to a nicer buck. This way a person has to make sure that the buck has to have the proper points in order to be killed. Instead of just shooting away on brown to be down. The other major issue is all of the white deer that is getting to populated all over the country side is getting out of hand. Some of those deer need to be killed to keep them in line of population.
- 16242 My hunting party has been in tact and hunting the same areas (Meade Wildlife - Public Land) for nearly 40 years. Over the first 25 years we would regularly bag at least one deer for each member of our hunting party. (approximately 6-8 deer for our group) Over the past 10-15 years, I am happy to even see one deer hunting the same area. We invest the same amount of time in the woods hunting and have approximately the same amount of people in our hunting party. What has changed? This is prime deer habitat...but no deer? Predators (wolves) are in the area...we see them while hunting. Over-harvesting in the late 1990's to early 2000's when each hunter could get 4 tags? Bow/Cross Bow hunting? My son has been hunting for 8 years in this location and I have struggled to even get him the enjoyment of firing a shot. I'm going to "loose" him from hunting if this doesn't change. Rather than eliminating the Mentor Hunting age to hook younger hunters, please do something about the deer herd so I can keep our youth interested in hunting.
- 16243 I hunt near Spencer wi. The amount of white/albino deer is crazy. Opening day 2017 I seen 22 white or albino deer. My brother 3 miles away seen 18 white or albino deer. Neighbors woods had 26 white or albino deer come to the field and eat that is 4 miles away from me other hunters have seen a lot of white or albino deer. And there are way more then what I have mentioned. We see a lot more white or albino deer then we do brown. The white or albino deer way over dominate the brown deer during the rut. Every time the does have fawns most are white doubles and even triplets. This is on hwy 153 in Spencer wi. I would recommend you open hunting privileges on white or albino deer in this area because of the over abundance of them. Like I said they way over populate the brown deer and the white or albino bucks basically breed all the does because the brown deer can't compete.



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- 16244 Over the last 21 years of deer hunting in WI, I have watched a number of changes, most in the last 5 years. Growing up with this tradition being the most looked forward to week of my year, I look forward to carrying that tradition on to my three son's as they get older. TRADITION, that's the important word that is being swept under the rug in this state. I know more people not buying a tag anymore because they don't see any deer, the rules are too complicated, they don't know how to register a deer anymore, and the list goes on. The state wants more hunters, go back to the rules that proved there were more hunters, go back to registering at the local bar or gas station, that was the best part of opening day. The proof is in the past. I don't typically fill this stuff out, but I really means a lot to me and my family to keep such a great tradition going.
- 16245 Marathon Counties 2014-2017 3-year population goal was to maintain the deer herd. Mild winters and low antlerless quotas including small or no bonus permits increased the population estimate from roughly 32,000 deer in 2014 to over 45,000 in 2017. The 2018-2020 3-year population goal is to maintain. The 2018 antlerless quota should be increased to 7500 to at least MAINTAIN population at 45,000 animals. I recommend increasing the bonus permits from 1500 on private land to 2500 to allow the private landowners to attempt to manage the deer herd locally where the population is too high. Additionally, I recommend offering at least 500 public land bonus permits. In localized areas of both the private and public forest lands tree regeneration is non-existent. If these populations continue to grow there won't be oak and other hardwood species in the future.
- 16246 There simply should be zero antlerless deer tags available for public land in the northwestern side of the County (this is only the portion of the County I am familiar with for deer population purposes). There should be ZERO free public antlerless tags available for public land, and if free tags are issued with a license it should ONLY be for private land. Please stop issuing free public land tags with purchase of a license. Once the population recovers (if ever), the \$12 antlerless tag system should be the only tool used to reduce deer populations. The northwestern portion of the County is overhunted, especially on public land. Deer population is even low on most private land in this area. Buck age structure is horrible in this area. I have witnessed countless hunters either quit rifle hunting or reduce time afield due to lack of deer.
- 16247 I am concerned with the growth of the wolf population and more recently large cats (mountain lions or cougars). Specifically, the wolf population is of great concern. The coyotes are bad enough, and their numbers have exploded. But the number of wolf sightings is disturbing. Hunters are beginning to take matters into their own hands. I have hunted for 45 years and not until the reintroduction of the wolf did we have the numbers we are now seeing. The problem is far worse in other areas, but none the less, something needs to be done to avoid farmers and hunters taking action. I have first hand knowledge of wolves grabbing calves while cows are giving birth and then killing the cow as well. More farmers are now armed when they are patrolling their fields and farms.
- 16248 This unit is too large with too many different types of habitat for it to be managed the same throughout the county. There are large farms and other owners that are controlling hundreds and even thousands of acres where the deer are plentiful and other parts are broken into many small parcels where the deer are scarce. This problem needs to be looked at so they deer are not over or under harvested on these different properties. Another problem that is very concerning to me is the amount of predators that not only affect deer but other game and non game animals, squirrels, grouse and rabbits to name a few are a rare sight around the area that I live and hunt. I believe that wolves coyotes hawks and owls are causing a lot of the decrease in these species including the deer.



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- 16249 With 100 acres of wooded land in Marathon County we only allowed buck only for the last 3 years (5 hunters) on our property because we saw very little signs of deer. This last winter we saw tracks in our woods and an occasional herd of 6-8 deer going between our woods and the neighbors. (Two nice bucks were harvested during the last hunting season) At least we are now seeing some deer sign. In the evening we see a few deer in the field along side our woods....which is really nice to see too. They look very healthy. We own property up in Price County too and there its even worse for deer sign. We travel the trails during the winter and hardly see any tracks other than wolf tracks. We have not harvested a deer up there for two years....don't see anything.
- 16250 I own 240 acres of private land, consisting 30 acres ag crop land and the balance woodland; the surrounding land is mostly ag. crop land. The Deer population in Frankfort Township, Marathon County has been dropping over the past decade. In the past I would see 20-30 deer during Opening Gun weekend. In the past several years I have only see 4-10 deer per weekend, most are yearlings or fawns. Seeing a mature Buck is a rarity in our township. I use to invite several friends to hunt opening gun weekend. In the past three years it has been only myself and son, my friends are disappointed with the lack of deer and have either hunt in northern Minnesota or some have stop hunting deer altogether. I hope this insight helps Kurt Schuster
- 16251 "Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer..... misleading comment. Are you talking Bucks or Does of Both????? I want a reasonable chance to harvest a buck. Our deer sightings are very low during any hunting season, however this past year I did not even see a doe from the deer stand I have sat in for the past 10 years. Where did they go every year is less and less, and it is not because of development around our hunting area. Nothing has changed in the area for years except the deer population. CDAC and the WI DNR are not doing the job where are the deer???? OVERPOPULATION not in our area. Your job is to manage deer for everyone not a select few. Do It Or Get Out.
- 16252 Understanding that deer management is a difficult and controversial task and having hunted this county for the past 20 years, and seeing a significant decline in deer numbers on public land, I don't understand why you increase antler-less deer tags on private land. From what I have seen, most private land owners won't harvest does and then claim crop damage. And won't give permission to hunt their land, which is their right, I get that. But then they shouldn't be able to claim crop damage. The deer were here a long time before that field was here. A doe tag with a buck tag is reasonable, not all the additional tags throughout the season. Just my opinion. Thank you!
- 16253 My comments pertain to the SW corner of Marathon County (I hunt near Eland). I gather the deer population in the rest of the county is not as high as the SW corner. Don't really know, never hunted there. The SW corner though, seems to have a population more similar to Shawano & Waupaca Counties. In my opinion, there are too many deer. Browse lines are visible everywhere. It is very hard to grow new hardwood saplings and all but impossible to grow a young cedar tree. I would strongly support an antlerless only (zero buck harvest) season or two, although I suspect I am in the minority on this. To me, there are too many doe and not enough bucks live to maturity.
- 16254 Let's leave the bow, crossbow and gun seasons intact as they are. If anything, a muzzleloader fee should be imposed since simply having a different weapon allows an additional 10 days of hunting with no additional charge. That said, with this fee should come the opportunity to harvest another deer. Also, let's understand that the Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association membership totals represents approximately 2% of all archery licenses sold. Please listen to the majority of hunters when establishing policy, rather than listening to the loudest hunters. The majority of archery hunters have chosen not to belong to the WBHA. Listen to that majority. Thank you!



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- 16255 The progression from group/drive hunting to still hunting by the majority of the hunters is a much larger factor in the number of deer seen on a day to day basis in our hunting area than a the herd size is. The deer have found sanctuaries to spend the season in and never get pushed. It doesn't matter how many deer on the landscape if this trend continues (and it likely will). I would support the issuance of two free doe tags per license in this unit. This would allow landowners more flexibility to manage the herd in their specific area and if others choose not to use them that is there choice.
- 16256 I did not select a choice for the comment "Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer.... because comment is misleading. I want a reasonable chance to harvest a buck during the hunting season but not does. I DO NOT SHOOT DOES IN ANY MANNER SHAPE OR FORM!!!!!! A low doe population in the life cycle means less bucks in the upcoming hunting seasons. There are not very many deer in the area we hunt so I am against any bonus antlerless tags any Holiday Hunt, any Antlerless Only Hunts. All these antlerless hunting opportunities are absurd especially in our hunting area.
- 16257 I continue to state the same information, and our deer numbers for northwestern Marathon county are low. This area in North western town of Bern do not belong in the same region as the rest of Marathon county and the management decisions made for the broad spectrum of Marathon county continue to impact and hurt the deer population of the Northwestern town of Bern region. This are needs to be removed from your central farmland zone. Deer density is not in great shape. Thank you for listening. We need a better plan.
- 16258 Get rid of the holiday hunt and antlerless seasons in the state all together. Bow season, rifle, muzzle loader, then bow for the remainder of season, with bow harvest throughout. Only other season would be a youth gun weekend if that is a big draw but hunting with family during opening weekend is a greater tradition and more nostalgic. Kids can be introduced to hunting via bow hunting in nicer weather and hunting at younger ages now during standard gun season that special youth hunts don't seem as necessary.
- 16259 I believe the whole state needs to go to antler only deer hunting for the next 3 years. There just isn't the deer numbers there once was at least on public lands I hunt. Far to many hunters and not enough deer. We limit the amount of female mallards we can kill. Why? I would say because they have the babies! No shooting of does for at least three years and a antler restriction of 3 points a side. That would bring the deer herd back and better quality bucks on public lands in my opinion. Thank you
- 16260 Over the past 20 years, each year we see less and less deer and more and more predators. This season alone our hunting party saw several coyotes in a relatively small area which the DNR seem to be oblivious to as a reality. The recommendations provided each year are surprising as they do not accurately reflect what is going on in the area. In fact, the Marathon zone is so large that it seems unlikely that the assessment will ever be accurate across the entire area.
- 16261 I dairy farm in south west marathon county , have a big complaint on all the white deer !! Wondering when you are going to give landowners permits to shoot them . Its getting to point where we see more white deer than brown !! During rut big white bucks are running small to mid sized brown bucks out of area ! Its time to do something about it , if u had to hunt and see white deer all the time that u cant shoot im sure u wouldn't like it ! Thanks
- 16262 I remember hunting on public forest lands 30-20 years ago and seeing numerous deer. These days it is very difficult to find quality deer hunting in the public forest lands. I have seen some hunters take deer that are yearlings. I'm not sure the answers to this problem, but there has to be a way to increase the amount and quality of deer in the public forest lands in Marathon cty.
- 16263 If you give out private land bonus tags you should ALWAYS give out some public land bonus tags. This is not about the "haves" and the "have nots". This is equal opportunity for EVERYONE! Going down this road of only giving out bonus tags for private land is akin to the European style of game management where only the wealthy and/or the "connected" get to hunt.



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- 16264 Why does the DNR want to eliminate group hunting. If that passes you will lose 7 hunters in this group and how many more groups will you lose. People are bitchin that they don't see any deer now what will they see when you take 10000 or more hunters out of the woods. If I am not out in my woods hunting I will not let anyone else in there either that's 200 acres
- 16265 I would be all for an antler restriction in this unit to encourage more mature antlered bucks of 4 or more points on one side. Youth hunt for a weekend is a great idea to encourage our youth to join the sport. Eliminate any antlerless only hunts or extending seasons. The deer population is already pressured and hunted from September through January.
- 16266 I am very concerned with the large number of albino deer in this area. I have counted on several times over 25 albino deer grazing in the fields at dusk. This population is taking over and I feel pushing out the regular deer herd. Please consider special permits or a special hunting season to address the large presence of albino deer in our area.
- 16267 I do not support the proposal to shorten the crossbow season. The crossbow availability got me back into deer hunting after many years away. Also, my three grandsons are interested in learning how to hunt deer with a crossbow, where before have shown little interest. The crossbow will open doors for new hunters.
- 16270 Please don't eliminate the group hunting you will reduce the number of hunters that hunt and if I am not hunting on my land I will not let anyone else hunt on this land (that's 200 acres). Our group is 7 people that will not be hunting anymore how many more people will you eliminate from the hunting season
- 16268 Something needs to be done about the white deer. My land is in Brighton township and I see far more white deer than brown deer on a regular basis. It's not uncommon to 20 white deer in a single sit or 50 plus white deer driving around at dusk or shining. They are taking over the area and ruining the hunting
- 16269 I have hunted Marathon county for 32 years. I have the privilege of hunting private land and have had great success in this unit it seems to be doing well under good management. One thing I do know is happening here is that certain groups are buying private land tags just so other people don't which sucks
- 16271 My experience in the woods show many more coyotes, bears and wolves. They have a big impact on the deer population. Make hunting these species easier. Allow a bear permit south of Highway 64 every two years. Allow wolf hunting and trapping and somehow make it easier to trap and hunt coyotes. Thank you.
- 16273 Want a season opened for white deer. Too many around in one area. Seen 26 in one woods. See more white deer hunting than brown deer. Also make it legal to feed deer during winter months. Would help for deer to survive during winter months but put a limit on how much you can put out at a time.
- 16272 I believe there should be consideration of the idea of significantly increasing the non-resident license fee (revenue for wildlife), capping the number of non-resident deer tags sold, and possibly making a non-resident deer tag available through a random draw, much like other states have done.
- 16274 Would like a season held in the earlier part of the fall when hunting conditions may be better weather wise. Run it like Squirrel season, have a bag limit based on scientific management. This would avoid the crowds in the hunting areas and on the highways.
- 16275 I would really like to see a hunter only being able to shoot one deer per weapon. At max 2 deer a season, one with bow and one with gun. I also support a shortened crossbow season, that is way to long and the numbers show. Thank you for your time.
- 16276 Consider recruiting a farmer or two to serve in the county deer board. It's not uncommon to see 40-50 deer in a field near the Rock Rd and Hwy 97 intersection between Jan-Apr. Same thing on south River Rd and other areas of SW Marathon county.



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- 16277 There's an over abundance of white/albino deer in the West Central part of Marathon country that needs to be seriously addressed. It's hard to keep youth Hunter's interested in hunting when all they see are deer that they can't legally take.
- 16278 The amount of deer I've seen has gone down I remeber being able to see deer all the time now I only see a few hunting all year. If nothing changes my family will quite hunting wisconsin and start traveling to other states for deer hunting
- 16279 Baiting needs to be banned State Wide. It is the single biggest mistake the State of WI has ever made with regard to deer regulations. Baiting is the single biggest factor hunter satisfaction and deer sightings are down year over year.
- 16280 I support the 6,500 overall farmland zone antlerless permits. I also support the 0 bonus antlerless permits for public lands. However, I strongly believe 1,500 bonus antlerless permits is way too high for private lands. Thank you.
- 16281 I would love to see crossbow hunting to be eliminated, if anything age requirements 55 and up. I also think a 4 point on one side law would do extremely well in Wisconsin! There would be a lot if very quality bucks after a few years.
- 16282 2016 was a great year in seeing bucks. Almost anytime out bow hunting we saw bucks. 2017 was the opposite - very few to no bucks. In fact of the 12 years hunting marathon county in our area 2016 was the best year of seeing bucks.
- 16283 Overall health of forested areas is my interest. When browse devastates the habitat- not good. Disease transmitted when concentrations are unhealthy. Deer have become suburbanized. Balance between aesthetics and health/ balance.
- 16284 I am a professional biologist (PhD) and, from that vantage point, I am extremely concerned about the propagation of CWD. I believe the DNR should devote more effort to reduce the spread of CWD and have additional funds to do so.
- 16285 I'm truly concerned about the number of crop damage permits being issued in Marathon and Portage counties. This has much more negative impact on the local herd than crossbows! Not to mention predator problems in this area.
- 16286 We are close to the population numbers I'm hoping to see, but not quite there. The increase from last season to this season was great. One more increase like that I, then maintain the population would be my ideal goal.
- 16287 Something needs to be done with the extreme overpopulation of albino type deer in West Central Marathon County. Past few years have seen more white deer come past my stand than Brown and I am far from the only one.
- 16288 From my post season observations, I think that the deer numbers in northeast Marathon County where I hunt, have improved slightly. I concur that the CDAC recommendation should be "maintain" the herd. Thank you,
- 16289 Antler restrictions on bucks. And more doe tags to compensate for having more bucks. Be nice to see some older bucks. Not everyone has land to do qdm. I would be happy to see less if they were better quality.
- 16290 The willingness of private landowners to help with the antlerless harvest has great affect on the overall harvest. Until that (not sure how) is increased the number of antlerless harvest will be hard to change
- 16291 Winter has been reasonably mild until recent snowstorms. Fear of unit increasing rapidly if not enough antlerless permits are offered whether they are on private or public lands.
- 16292 Need to establish a one buck tag per season, any weapon. Eliminate bow and gun buck tags. Also eliminate group hunting of bucks. Okay with group hunting of does.



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16293 The quota is about right. The addition of 1500 Private tags gives the land owner a tool to use if the local population of deer is causing problems.

16294 Bring back minimum age of twelve to hunt and must have hunter safety to get a licensce and bounty on predators to get more hunters involved.

16295 I do not want to see a shortened crossbow season. They should be on an equal plane as compounds which are as fast as crossbows.

16296 I support a minimum antler restriction of 4 points on one side to increase the quality of bucks in marathon county.

16297 This past season I saw too many coyotes,, some wolves and the bears are getting more numerous all year .

16298 changer the ratio of Private (1500) to Public (0) 1000 Private and 500 Public is reasonable

18047



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Marinette, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

60 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 22
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 12
I hunt in this unit: 58
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 56
Bow: 31
Crossbow: 27
Muzzleloader: 19

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 25.69
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 39
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 7
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 15
Fewer: 16
Same: 15
More: 9
Many More: 3
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	2	8	16	15	18	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	3	20	15	18	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	4	14	16	17	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	4	24	31	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	20	34	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	26	29	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	51	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.65
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.02
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.18
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.72
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.18
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.84
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.32
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.60
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.32
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.98
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.44



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Marinette, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16299 The deer population in this unit is above habitat holding capacity with severe deer browse damage observed throughout. The buck to doe ratio is very unbalanced as well as the age of existing bucks. Most areas the doe to buck ratio is at least 10:1, if not higher. People complain about not seeing deer, but this is simply not true; they are unhappy with their hunting experience due to lack of buck sightings. Ask most people who said they didn't see anything or were unhappy with the hunt and most observed plenty of deer; however they were mostly doe and or fawn sightings, in which they had no intention of harvesting. Quality of the deer herd or quality of the deer hunt has never been addressed, it has always been based on quantity only!!! Why have we not chosen the route of managing the deer herd based on holding capacity, buck to doe ratio, and age class distribution? Seeing more bucks would greatly increase most deer hunters overall experience. There is no reason why we cannot model this harvest unit to match other more intensely managed areas within the state and other states that manage for an even buck to doe ratio with a goal to harvest mature bucks instead of pounding on these yearling bucks year after year. Most hunters are now hunting both MI and WI spending only opening weekend in WI to return back to MI to spend the rest of hunting season as they know it is their best chance of killing a nice buck. This trend has gone beyond common and is the norm in our area. What a waste of WI tourism money, that our hunting experience has gone from great to disappointing year after year. And what has been done to remedy this?? What can we do moving forward?? A lot of money has been invested in solving these problems by hiring a deer Czar, has he addressed this, and if so why hasn't the state listened? Balancing the buck to doe ratio is an immediate need/goal. To continue to operate as is, is a lack of responsibility as the overall land steward that is in charge. The age class distribution of bucks is extremely unbalanced as well. In the buck only areas to the north, statistics are being swayed saying the buck harvest is high, no S@%t! It is because they can only shoot does. As a direct result hunters are harvesting the first buck they see; which is usually a yearling buck. Year after year in this entire management unit the onslaught of yearling bucks continues, and as a direct result equals a poor overall hunting experience. I have talked to so many hunters that saw plenty of deer throughout the season and the only buck they saw was a yearling buck so they shot it; and after the season, even though they harvested a deer, and even though they may have harvested a buck, said they were unhappy with the season. The only next step forward to rebuilding this once great management unit is to manage for quality not quantity!!! Please, and thank you.



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- 16300 In my opinion, deer hunting hasn't been what it used to be when I was younger and first fell in love with the sport. First of all, I think baiting should be banned across the state. If in fact the deer population is higher than it should be, then baiting them only proves to make them less likely to travel further distances than normal and also keeps them more nocturnal. If you're trying to tag more deer and have less deer/car accidents, then the route that has been encouraged is wrong(in my opinion). Adding more youth hunts and granting more antlerless tags only encourages people who don't value the sport as much as others to take it up. I understand "Does" create more deer and deer management is indeed essential to the ecological way of things. But when I was a kid I would see 20 plus deer on opening morning and now I'm lucky to see 1 or 2 the entire week. I'll see 50 deer in a field three weeks prior to gun season on any given night but when the season hits they are no where to be found. I very strongly believe that if you want to bring the excitement of the sport back, and the longevity of future hunters in the state to increase steadily, and to stay strong, the main problem is baiting! The extending of the seasons and the adding of youth hunts isn't solving anything or isn't going to solve anything. (And let's be honest, how many of the youth hunts are honest about youths actually tagging the deer?) The online registration just makes it easier for the less honest to be, in fact, less honest. I have three sons that I'm trying to get interested in hunting, but it's proving To be a very difficult task when dad isn't seeing any deer and hasn't put any venison on the table for a while. If I could change one thing only about the way deer management has gone over the past 10 or so years of hunting, it would definitely be the baiting. Again, just my opinion, but I feel very strongly about it, and i truly believe that it would greatly improve the sport of deer hunting in this state! Thank you very much for allowing me to voice my thoughts and opinions on this matter. Sincerely, a concerned hunter!
- 16301 The Marinette County farmland zone quota is highly influenced by crop damage in my opinion. Crop damage claims and program participants continue to be one of the highest grossing counties in the state. I do not agree to set the decrease quota on the participation and incentive based program. I believe participation would be far less if mandatory public access was a requirement. If an over abundance of deer are on particular agricultural lands than why would this program need to be managed by the farms to limit access. It should be a requirement that all lands subject to crop damage claims be open for public hunting. The increase of antlerless permits on public land to satisfy the increase for the county quota is short sided. Lands that already have high pressure and lower deer populations will not achieve the desired quota that is driven from private agriculturally dominated land. This will also further damage the hunting experience for those who hunt public land. The CDAC should be exploring ways to increase harvest on private property by providing opportunities to the general public on these lands and not increasing pressure on public lands. I do support the holiday hunt and extended bow season for the sole purpose of providing opportunities. Hunters have already been limited by the type of land they hunt in a particular county by the current deer season framework.
- 16302 Over My 20 years of hunting; I have grown to realize mature bucks in the State of Wisconsin are present, however the population of that specific animal are heavily underpopulated against the rest of the heard. This forces continual adolescent reproduction, as well as very low hunter satisfaction from a quality standpoint. Many other states; such as Michigan, Missouri, Montana to name a few have minimum size requirements for bucks which skyrocket the quality experience of the hunt. Can we please propose minimum size requirements for Buck kills? Within 3-5 years the satisfaction from hunters will grow significantly as there will be improved age demographics within the herd and this will help make the State of Wisconsin a more attractive state to hunt Whitetail. I would rather not continue to plan hunts out of my home state for higher quality hunting, but I am being forced to because everywhere I turn .5 -2.5 yr old bucks are being killed everywhere. All over my neighboring property and all over the state. We're slaughtering young deer at a pace that almost seems unfair to the species. Most deer never have a chance to reach maturity. If the argument turns to "meat hunters," don't charge them for a doe tag. Or promote them to hunt public land counties where populations are suitable for their needs.



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- 16303 I think the problem with deer numbers is around the farmer property where not enough hunters are allowed in to hunt on these properties which is causing the problem of too many deer around the farm areas to solve this problem there has to be a way found to kill the deer in the areas where there are too many deer (the farmers fields) your solution is to kill the deer away from the farms the farm is where they should be shot, where you cant hunt because they will not let you hunt there. where I live and hunt where is where they are getting shot making numbers so low its hard to see a deer years ago I seen a lot of deer during seasons now I see just a few I think this is a big problem with your solution. the deer are not getting shot where they should be and I think this should be addressed as far as a doe only hunt if you go to this I and many others will just take a year off or quit entirely thank you for listening to my views
- 16304 We have hunted our property for 28 years. The last 10 years have been bad. To the point we do not even expect to see a deer. The last 5 years only I have hunted due to the numbers. I went the whole opening weekend this year only hearing 4 shots. I walked thru our property in January. Did not see any deer tracks. 5 years without a truck in the snow. I do not call that deer management I call it extinction. I have always given the DNR the opportunity to manage the deer herd. They are the experts and it is their job. But I am starting to feel it is a money game. If something does not change in a couple of years then I will hang it up. I am sure I will not be alone. I can not get anyone to waste the gas as they put, to hunt our private property. 20 years ago dozens wanted to. I was going to have a handicap hunt for the last 6 years, by why would I get someone's hope up when I know nothing is there.
- 16305 I work for P&G and have 6 weeks of vacation , 4 of which are taken during the fall hunting season . I am 61 years old and as my primary hunting is with crossbow , I hate the fact that Muzzleload runs 10 days rather than the old 7 days . Also if the holiday hunt stays at Xmas for the 9 days , this will be one of my last years to hunt. If the goal is to reduce the doe population , please leave room for the bowhunters to shoot a Buck during the holidays and open up the entire month of Jan to does only after the first Sunday in Jan. Thanks for letting me fill out this . PS , I did harvest 2 does off our property in the 2017 season (deer manage , no bucks , saw 12 different bucks last year)
- 16306 There are Over 100 % Less Deer Now Than There Were 20 Years Ago & 300% Less Deer than there Were 40 Years Ago STOP ALL Extra Hunts No Does Only Hunts For At Least 8 Years Only 2 Hunting Seasons Regular Bow Season & 9 Day Gun Season You Clowns Are KILLING The Sport By Having Too Many Hunts You Think Making More Hunts & Lowering the Age To Hunt Will bring More Revenue In To Your Pockets & Thats All You Worry About Go Back To Old Ways & Eliminate Extra Hunts WILL Bring Hunters Back Because THEY WILL ACTUALLY SEE DEER Instead Of Not Seeing Anything For Weeks Of Hunting There are Not the Deer Around Anymore To See for Hunting
- 16307 We need higher numbers for the economy in the area. People come to the area to go home with a good deer story. If they come empty handed, I am afraid they will give up the tradition. We are already seeing a drop in participation as it is. What kid wants to sit out in the woods and not see any deer. I myself have hunted a lot of years with out success. I feel like the population is just starting to recover from all the DNR meddling. The wolves made a huge dent, and earn a buck really hurt things as well. A large healthy herd is good for Wisconsin
- 16308 I have not seen a shooter Buck since 2012. Last (2017) year, I finally saw a mature doe and harvested it. It was the only deer our group of three had. Also in 2016, we were only able to come up with one deer. We certainly don't have the deer of years earlier. Our group feels that too many farm permits are given out prior to deer season. Maybe the farm permits should be given out after the regular seasons are finished. This would allow the Hunters buying the license for a more enjoyable hunt. Now many tell me how many squirrels they saw.



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- 16309 The holiday hunt is very discouraging. The 4 day antlerless after muzzle loader season is sufficient. Farmland hunters have no problem filling doe tags if they put forth the effort. If you want to keep the holiday hunt, allow the bow hunters to harvest bucks. You allow bow season during gun season, so what's the difference? Not exactly keen to extending bow season, bucks have shed antlers and some hunters won't take the time to look. Second weekend in January would be late enough for me to bow hunt.
- 16310 I have personally seen more deer this past fall and winter than in previous years. I would even speculate that deer numbers in and around our property in the Wausaukee area are the highest they have been in the last 10-15 years. We are in the area that was removed from the northern forest and put back into the central farmland. I feel that this move was the correct one and is happening at a good time when more antlerless deer need to be harvested.
- 16311 Holiday hunts and January bow hunting is ridiculous. Increasing numbers of the harvest will not occur in the coming coldest months of the year. Reject these hunts and tell dnr to come up with ideas that will actually attract people to hunting. Also these hunts will negatively affect land availability to snowmobiling which brings in more tourist dollars than hunting in December or January.
- 16312 In my part of the unit, during the crossbow season i did see a reasonable amount of deer early. But noticed seeing less deer when it began to turn cooler. During the gun season, i did see three deer. I wonder if there was a poaching incident in our part of the unit? I would really like it investigated and published in the news/online/newspaper to verify. Thank you for your time.
- 16313 In order to encourage deer hunting by current hunters as well as future generations, we need to keep the deer population up. People become frustrated when they sit for extended periods without seeing any deer. Also, deer begin to lose their antlers in early winter so extending the bow season may cause us to lose good breeding stock.
- 16314 I would like to see you harvest one buck and your doe. we can either use a bow or gun to hunt. I also think we have too many specialty hunts for deer. we start hunting in September all the way to first part of January and the deer never get to rest before winter begins. Thanks
- 16315 Concern is for this unit having too many deer with the mild winter in the farmlands areas. Outlook is for having higher numbers for farmers to deal with when low prices for commodity crops are being planted. Many farmers may not complain because of the low price.
- 16316 Deer numbers continue to dwindle in the northern portion of the zone. Either buck only hunting needs to happen to allow population to rebound in this area or the boundary between farmland and forest zones needs to be further south.
- 16317 I support decreasing the deer herd in the Central Farmland Zone. Give us public land hunters more bonus antlerless tags to help reduce the herd, especially since places like Beaver Creek Fishery area are thick with deer.
- 16318 Deer numbers are way down north of highway 64 in Marinette county. I feel too many does are getting shot way to many. Disagree with the way units are divided
- 16319 I will say what I said last year at the Wausaukee spring meeting----they need to move that line down to county trunk X.
- 16320 8 hunters in camp we hunt dark to dark in nice heated stands the total deer seen for the 9 day hunt was 2 deer
- 16321 Thanks for your work on the CDAC and please continue to provide the service and value to our areas.
- 16322 The deer population is strong in some areas and almost non-existent in others in Marinette
- 16323 start bow and crossbow hunting the first of October. we have too many special hunting seasons.
- 16324 Stop allowing the insurance corporations to dictate deer management, through bribery & graft!



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16325 If the DNR wants to reduce the deer it must figure out a way to open up more private land.

16326 Take the north part of central farmland out of that zone. County x should be the border!

18048



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Marinette, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

202 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 49
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 52
I hunt in this unit: 186
General interest in this unit: 36

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 177
Bow: 95
Crossbow: 90
Muzzleloader: 65

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.28
Maximum: 69

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 57
Mostly Private Land: 24
Public and Private Land About Equally: 37
Mostly Public Land: 24
Exclusively Public Land: 44
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 9
Not too crowded: 34
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 23
Somewhat crowded: 45
Very crowded: 17
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 27
Fewer: 52
Same: 65
More: 42
Many More: 12
Unsure: 4

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	7	19	42	46	88	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	6	12	44	48	83	9
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	14	32	51	93	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	95	85	22

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.95
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.69
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.22
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.38
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.36
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.35
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.03
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.18
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.72
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.32
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.32



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Marinette, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16327 This will be my 41st season hunting public land ranging anywhere from Highway C to the Florence County line to the north. Basically most of the old unit 45. I grew up in the Athelstane area and have hunted public land my whole life. I appreciate and enjoy the opportunities Marinette County provides. I do sometime wonder when longtime residence and hunters such as myself discuss how things use to be whether we are believed or not. My first season was 1978 and the deer numbers that existed back then far exceed what I see now and I spend much more time in the woods now. During the fall I take off work every Thursday and Friday and camp in my truck camper in the county forest. I have accepted that for reasons unknown to me deer numbers will never be allowed to return to levels that existed when I first started. I agree with what others have stated that predator issue is out of control. Since wolves are currently off limits and bear kill permits are issued for a much larger area than just this unit I really don't see any good solutions. I do believe that the number of points needed to obtain a bear kill permit should be lowered. Coyotes continue to be an issue and maybe provide a \$20 bounty for each coyote similar to what was done with beavers in the 80's would provided further incentive to reduce the coyote numbers. I believe the proposed 1575 permits for public land is a little too high. It seems strange that a unit with an objective to increase the deer herd would issue that many tags. I actually believe the deer numbers are higher than most people I talk to in this unit think there are. A number closer to 1000 seems more appropriate to me. One final point I would like to make is about baiting. I do not think baiting is immoral but I have personally experienced several issues with people who choose to bait. I do not bait and can't tell you the number of times I have been confronted by people who do, once by gun point. Baiting seems to create a feeling of ownership with some that do it. Also my experience walking the woods in the fall is that a significant number of people who do bait do not follow the 2 gallon law.

16328 Couple concerns: 1) I watch with great interest the DNR posted harvest numbers during and just after the gun deer season. Based on that, I know the numbers for antlerless harvested on public land is off. If I recall correctly, that number should be closer to 700. 2) I was fortunate to harvest my first buck in around 8 years during the gun season. Had multiple cameras out all fall, and saw maybe a dozen different bucks. I know that at least four of those being harvested. Just don't think that the numbers are that high yet. 3) I know of two bucks in the area that I hunt, one in Amberg on private land, and two antlerless that were harvested on public land around Amberg. Only one of the antlerless, an older doe had any body fat. The rest were all lean. This was a long cold winter with snow into April. I have a great concern for the potential of high losses this year both on general survival and new fawn production. Lastly, from the camera's posted, photo's of more bear and coyotes than I've ever seen before. I hunted every weekend in November, including one Wednesday, all Thursdays and Fridays up to the days before the gun opener. Saw two small bucks with the crossbow and only the one with the gun. Gun hunting party consisted of myself and three others. Total deer count was 2, 3, 3, and 10. Would really appreciate the lowering of that number of antlerless permits. I understand that Marinette county is very large, and the deer populations vary, but in the northwest portion of the county on the county land, the numbers are far from what they once were, and appears that more people are hunting the area.



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16329 Why is the DNR stating they want to increase the Deer population yet CDAC wants to issue 1350 doe permits in 2018 compared to 675 in 2017?? I bought Land here 5 years ago strictly for Hunting, I put a fair amount of money into the local economy. I'm a good steward of the land. I've created better habitat for the Animals, planted food plots etc. I've yet to Harvest a Deer but did harvest a Bear last Fall, I trap but controlling the Coyotes in this terrain is nearly impossible. My plan was to buy a home and move there when I retire in 3 years however a week ago I leased some land to hunt in central Wisconsin because of the lack of Deer in this Unit, there are far too many Predators for the Deer Herd to increase and yet we're going to Harvest more Does? I Love the Outdoors, and all of the Animals, but I don't understand why we Harvest soooo many Does? I've been thinking about selling the Land and the Camp. With all of the Predators and no effective way to control them, what would happen if we get a Severe Winter? We're Lucky the last 4 have been mild. Thanks for Listening. I have a very high regard for the DNR and all of its Employees, I have worked closely with some From time to time, I feel the Fisheree Folks do an awesome job!!!! And use to feel the same about our Deer Managers, but we continue to harvest record low numbers of Deer, and we always get excuses but bottom line the Population is too low I've Hunted for 47 years and what we're doing with the Deer in some DMUs breaks my Heart, some DMUs we're doing a good job. I live to Hunt, thanks for listening, A Hunter who loves Wisconsin.

16330 I am pleased that the boundaries for this unit have been adjusted to help better reflect the herds habitat makeup in this county. I thought for once the department had listened to hunters and done something very good. That excitement has now completely faded. Now that I see the recommendation is to double the antlerless kill quota. This is an enormous mistake. The populations in this area suffer not only great risk of predation and hard winters, now they have to contend with even more hunters taking aim. I would encourage someone for the department to go and spend some serious time in the woods in far northern and northwestern Marinette county. The deer numbers here are as low as I can ever remember. Wolf sign increases on a yearly basis and hunter numbers continue to rise on public land. How is it that the desire in the unit is to increase population, yet permits and quota are nearly doubled. This makes zero sense. How can the population increase when the department wants more harvested. If The quota is not being met this should serve at least as some indicator that population might be lower than initially thought, not that more permits are needed. I spent nearly 3 weeks in the woods this fall. I saw 3 deer while #bowhunting and 3 deer while gun hunting. I hunted numerous areas. Deer sign in general was very very sparse. If these antlerless numbers are kept as is this will only continue the downward spiral of a once great area to hunt.

16331 I feel the proposed 1575 antlerless permits for the public land is way to high. For arguments sake I will concede that the quota of 550 deer on the public land is accurate to still see an increase in the overall deer herd. When I read the preliminary recommendations minutes this number is based on a historic success rate of about 35%. Therefore, the recommendation of 1575 will lead to a harvest of about 550 antlerless deer. Last year 375 antlerless permits were issued and 314 were harvested, a success rate of over 83%. Which leads one to ask why the difference. The historical data used was based on data taken from 2009-2013. Back in this timeline any individual who purchased an archery tag received a free bonus antlerless tag. I would still purchase a antlerless permit when available just in case I was unable to fill my free doe tag or harvest an antlered deer. In talking to other hunters I am not alone in doing this. Fast forward to last year and this year. No free antlerless tags are issued with an archery license to in this unit. Therefore the harvest rate was 83% and not 35%. With this in mind I feel a permit number closer to 700 would be more in line to reach the 550 quota. If I am wrong the numbers would need to be increased next season. If the CDAC's assumptions are wrong this units deer numbers would once again crash.



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- 16332 I believe the focus of hunting has changed from hunting to killing. The selling of licenses and bonus tags has been taken advantage of as a revenue source as opposed to a management tool. The technology(game cameras, video games, cross bows, weapon accuracy, scopes, tree stands) to kill a deer has increased the success of a lot of hunters that has transcended to today's generation to expect an instant kill gratification. The numbers of hunters has declined sharply in the northern part of the state due to one simple fact--- hunters on public land see very few deer. The decrease should be an alert to the entire state on the future of the sport. How can you increase the deer population while increasing the amount of antlerless and bonus permits issued? Mathematically, it does not equate. Possible solutions- 1) Age limit on licenses(is a five year old emotionally ready to kill an animal? Do we have any evidence that young hunters hunt their entire life? There is a level of excitement if you have to wait until you are older(10-12) to carry a gun. 2) Take a closer examination on ag tags- population effects and effective percentages 3) Limit cross bows to people that need them--elderly and handicapped 4) Improve the deer population north of highway 8 by limiting antlerless tags 5) Mentor hunting, not killing
- 16333 I have owned 75 acres in the Town of Amberg for 43 years and I hunt my land and the Marinette County Forest land. There were more deer SEEN in the late 70's and early 1980's before the DNR pushed for Antlerless Tags. Deer are now hunted from September till the end of January....Think about it 5 months...Unlimited doe tags for bow and gun...Between the predators...Wolf..Bear..and Poachers our deer population is DECREASING...The train of thought that Wallenfang and others push...if it's brown it's down..and the notation that since I am a private landowner I am "Keeping ALL the deer on my private land" is so much Crap. And to think you've already decided to almost triple the amount of Antlerless tags this year for private landowners is NUTS. When a person has 75 acres and 6 stands on the property and you only have one person see 3 antlerless deer during opening day something's wrongwith YOUR thinking...Kids are not going to sit in the woods all day and "Hunt" and then not even see a deer..your ruining the deer hunt in this state...I guess the best option is to go back to Wyoming...at least you see deer there...
- 16334 My favorite stand in the Northern Forest is on a little 2 acre food plot that we plant each year. On every sit on this plot (not occasionally, but every sit), I have 15 - 30 antlerless deer in front of me. Not a horn in the group. If I have that many antlerless deer in that small area, then I think it should be easier to obtain a permit. That is a dangerous number of animals in a limited area. I will grant you that this plot is only about two miles from the line that divides the forest land from the farm land. I realize that the line has to be drawn somewhere. However, I also spend a great deal of time hunting the Framland zone. Never once in the past couple of years have I encountered that concentration of deer in the Farm Zone where we have 250 acres surrounded on three sides by active farm land. The little plot that I described above has one partially active farm within a 2 mile circle. We need to be able to harvest more of these deer for the good of the herd.
- 16335 The carrying capacity of the land is much higher than my observation of the number of deer. I drive 50 miles one way 5 days a week working a second shift job. Most of it (75%) is County and US Forrest. I used to see depending on time of year about 30 to 35 deer a night on my way home. I now average about 2 or 3 a night. I've been working there for 17 years. Your policies have devastated the deer population up here. Allowing any does to be taken over the next 5 years at least will only continue if not complete the devastation. I'm quite certain the automobile insurance companies would be very happy with you if you continue the same policies and way of managing the herd that you seem to have had in place for the last 10 to 15 years. Rebuild the herd by not giving out doe permits and limit bucks to 6 point or better for adults, 18 and older. Do that for at least 5 years. Longer if the winters are severe. 2 years for every 50 point or better year.



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- 16336 Hunting in Northern Marinette county has been on the decline for years. It is nothing like it was when I hunted at family deer camps up here when I was a kid. Back then it was fun and you had a good chance at getting a deer and were almost guaranteed to see plenty of deer. This fueled the area economy as many headed north to hunt. After the years of the DNR encouraging everyone to shoot does and giving out tags like candy the deer numbers crashed and the hunting camps left as well. Numbers have started to rebound slowly and this gives me optimism. But now the committee is going to double the doe tags. This will put a halt to the deer recovery and start us going backwards again. I feel for the business owners who will lose any hunters that have started to return as the deer numbers fall again. For the forest area of the county I would support keeping the doe tags at the same amount they were last year.
- 16337 I would very much like to see a program put in place that would reduce the number of 1.5 year old buck harvested each year. There is an increase in antlerless deer in this management unit over the past several year based on zero to reduced antlerless harvest levels over the past 5 years. This is good. But, high hunter pressure leads to most 1.5 year old or less bucks being harvested each year. I would really like to see a program in place for this deer management unit that would limit buck harvest to minimum 3 points on at least one side. This would allow the spikes and fork horn bucks to survive to 2.5 years old and older and really improve the deer hunting experience. Many hunters I talk to support this, including ones that currently choose to shoot spikes and forks. They say they do it because if they don't someone else will. Please consider this proposal for this deer management unit.
- 16338 My opinion is if you are trying to increase a population, the number of tags you provide should decrease but the proposal and recommendations are to increase the number of tags to attempt to increase the population. That's extremely contradictory to the desired outcome of increasing the overall population. Zero antlerless tags should be given out for this area, let alone proposing to give out more. Thank you for taking this input into consideration. These proposals should be strictly based on the population dynamics and scientific based facts, not what makes the hunters happy. I'm a hunter and I won't be happy if in 10 years there are no deer to hunt up there because we over harvested versus not giving out bonus antlerless tags for a few years to help the population bounce back and do what's best for the future growth. Thanks again.
- 16339 Please do not make the Northern Forest zone part of Marinette County in an Ag unit. The western part of Marinette county has a lot less deer than the Eastern Part. And I struggle to understand how your goal as set in 2017 to increase the herd size is substantiated by the recommendation to give out nearly double the antlerless tags for 2018? Please listen to those that have owned land and hunted here for years. We see slight signs of deer populations starting to recover just a little. Please be conservative with the antlerless tags. Its sad to go out to dinner or to the local bar during gun season and there's hardly anyone there anymore. Those business owners are suffering. Hunters are complaining and its because there aren't enough deer on the landscape. Thanks for listening.
- 16340 The 2018 Antlerless Quota and Bonus Permit levels are considerably higher than what they were in 2017. I agree, however, with the Marinette CDAC's recommendations for several reasons. The winter of 2017-2018 is shaping up to be the fourth consecutive mild winter. Winter mortality of deer should not be a concern and fawn production should again be good. The buck harvest, which is a good indication of the deer population trend, has increased significantly since the CDAC's were formed in 2014. If the Marinette CDAC's recommended quota is approved, and then achieved in 2018, the post-hunt deer population would almost certainly show a modest increase over the 2017 post-hunt population. In my opinion, the deer population in the Marinette County Northern Zone is nearly at an optimal level.



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- 16341 When we bought our property 20 years ago we saw far more deer than we do now. Out of our group of 4 we average 1 deer a year. During the season we see few does and very few bucks. I haven't observed much winter mortality in the public land near our property. The deer caught on cameras have looked quite healthy. I've also taken more pics of coyotes lately than I have in the past 2 years. I'm not a fan of the large number of bonus/antlerless tags offered as we have people near us who will take as many deer as they can purchase tags for (or don't tag them for all I know) irrespective of the quality of the animal - doe or buck. I'm not talking about true QDM - they take anything from a size perspective. It's hard to make that up on a regular basis.
- 16342 If you are trying to increase the deer herd in the Marinette county northern forest area STOP shooting antlerless deer. 1/2 of the antlerless deer shoot are nubby bucks and have no chance of growing up. There are already too many predators in the area eliminating the deer population. Areas where I would see 10 to 20 deer on opening of gun season you now are lucky to see 2. Shooting another 1000 antlerless deer is nuts. You will never get the herd to recover if you shoot that many antlerless deer. STOP it now, this area was supposed to be a buck only area several years ago and you sold permits anyway. It's not about the money, put an antler restriction on bucks stop shooting does and bring back QUALITY deer hunting before it's too late.
- 16343 In the area where we hunt the deer population has been down for many years. I believe predation is the main factor. I am not saying that this is a bad or a good thing but with 2 wolf packs intersecting right over where we hunt and the increase in the black bear population, there has got to be an increase in fawn kill. 2 years ago a buck at full run came flying out of the woods, ran down the road a distance and cut back into the woods, he was being followed by 3 wolves hot on his heels. On another occasion driving out to our stands in the morning a wolf popped out the side of road. We have seen scat and sign in the area we hunt and bear sightings are much more frequent than they ever were before. This has to lead to increased predation.
- 16344 I moved up to northern Wisconsin last summer from Outagamie County area. I hunted on my own land in Outagamie and saw many deer during the gun season over the 20 years we hunted there. We have owned many acres in Marinette county for over 30 years and did not hunt up there because of the lack of deer! We would sit every day in the woods to hunt and be lucky to see 5 deer all week. Last season we hunted and only seen 11 deer all week. By the evidence I have seen, not a lot has changed up here with the deer herd numbers. Lack of good quality of food plays a big role and I am fixing that on my property with food plots and wildlife trees. We also saw too many predators this winter since we live up here know. (wolves, coyotes and fishers)
- 16345 I've come up here many years to hunt and spend my money. During the past 15 years I have seen the deer herd collapse in the forest area. First the DNR said there were too many deer and issued bonus tags like candy. Couple that with harsh winters and bad time for the herd. After this happened I saw many hunters flee the north woods. They also took their money with them causing a serious hurt to local businesses. You should be rebuilding the herd, not increasing antlerless tags. The forest zone shrunk in size as it should have but you still propose increasing antlerless tags? If forests are not regenerating something else is going on as the deer numbers just aren't there. Do the right thing and don't increase the tags.
- 16346 The people I hunt with and myself have seen the doe population increase in age and numbers while the buck population decreases. We want the option of choosing a doe rather than killing off younger bucks especially during bow season. We eat venison as a primary meat in our family. We have seen remnants of bucks taken by wolf or coyote during winter months when the fewer bucks are run down after the rut and deer season has ended. It seemed to make sense when we could choose a buck or doe with our bow tag. In those days we contributed to a healthier whitetail population according to the choices we made. Back then there was a better balance of does to bucks in our area and a variety of ages among the deer we saw.



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- 16347 I have hunted this area in western Marinette County logging forest for 47 years- we finally see a few Bucks again, but the DNR continues to give Antlerless tags in the forest zone- this NEEDS to stop to let the herd grow in this are for several years- And put a minimum antler size for Bucks to minimum 4 points on one side- this will help the Buck population grow As Marinette Count is split with eastern part agriculture and western portion Forest land- you need to differentiate the antlerless tags to be ONLY agriculture are ONLY!!!! PLEASE STOP giving quotas to Forest Zone and let the herd here grow so those of us that hunt this public land can see and have a chance to harvest a Buck- NO ANTLERLESS TAGS!!!
- 16348 I have hunted the old Goodman forests my entire hunting life. The area south of HWY 8 and West of Parkway. The deer population in this area has been low for a long time. I would think a 3 fold increase in permits in one year is reckless. Last year was the first time in three years we saw any younger bucks. Unlike other claims of over browse, there is maple regeneration in this area of the northern forest. I just advise caution as this fragile resource is just showing weak signs of gaining some ground. I remember the great management of deer in unit 45 in past decades when permits were given out like free candy one year and then dropped to zero the next year. It took years to recover from those mistakes.
- 16349 I hunt exclusively on public land north and west of Athelstane. I think that 1575 antlerless permits, more than four times the number issued last year, is ridiculous. I both bow and gun hunt and find it hard to believe that that many doe permits would be issued for a unit that has a goal to increase the deer numbers. As I write this there is still well over a foot of snow on the ground. And while the winter has been relatively easy on the deer it can't be good for fawn reproduction to have this much snow in early April. I appreciate the fact that the doe permit numbers have been very low in recent years, don't mess up the past few years by issuing way to many tags now.
- 16350 I have been hunting and roaming the forests of Marinette county for over 50 years. However since the missed count years that I think really hurt the herd. The head has not come back as of yet. I do see it getting better, but still not up where it could be. I have had trouble getting young people involved in the sports due to no or very limited sightings of deer. Hard to keep their interest in hunting. These days as you sit in the woods waiting for deer to appear and listening for shots in the area, you can't help from wondering, if anyone is seeing anything or are the hunter numbers down. The shots you hear are minimal and nothing like when I was young.
- 16351 I don't hunt but I spend a great deal of time working in the forests around the state including those in Northern Marinette County for my job. Those that say there are too many deer and no forest regeneration in this area are trying to feed you a lie for self gain. With my work I see that the forests in this area are in great shape and saying anything else only gives the forestry industry a bad name for spreading false information. Over browse is a non issue here as the deer population is low. Further south in the state is a different situation. But up here the forests can support many more deer than are currently running around.
- 16352 Years ago there was a good number of deer on my land. Not anymore. Last year I saw the same four does and spike buck through out the fall while I was out in the woods and on my trail camera. My neighbors shot two of the does during bow season. During gun season I saw a couple deer. I hunted all nine days of the gun season. The deer population in the northern forest struggle enough with predators, car kills, bow season, and gun season. There should be no increase in the quota and there should be few or no antlerless tags sold for that matter. We need to rebuild the deer herd in NORTHERN Wisconsin, not kill the ones that remain.
- 16353 The fact that the projected deer total in 2018 in marinette forest is 46deer per square mile is a complete joke. I am fully understanding of a few mild winters helping the herd but the facts are that the deer are just not behind every tree like you claim. Keep letting Al Hofacker singlehandedly determining how many deer need to be killed while the other board members fall in line and the hunting in this zone will continue to suffer. We want to increase the size of the herd hear and yet you want to kill more deer each year. Common sense says this is stupid! Why do you continue to ignore reports from hunters in the field???



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- 16355 I hunt entirely on county forest land. I hunted 6 days straight from dawn till dark and saw 1 small buck that I couldn't get a shot at. I remember the days when you could see multiple bucks in the same day that is what makes hunting enjoyable. It's very difficult to get my grand children interested in deer hunting when they sit for days and only see a couple of does. You HAVE TO GET THE DEER NUMBERS BACK UP in the northern part of Marinette county. The southern part of the county is probably fine but northern half is far from it. Please DO NOT RAISE THE DOE PERMITS IN THE NORTH. THANK YOU
- 16354 Very few quality bucks. Most hunters in Crivitz from talking to locals are "brown its down". I'm against that kind of deer management. Would rather let the little bucks grow a year or two and have more trophies. Public land is great! public hunters, not so much. Most are usually pretty good but last two years I bow hunt a spot and have flags set out marking my spot. Next thing you know, opening gun hunting and someone is right next to you. Nothing can really be done about it, It doesn't bother me as much as some. I would love to see a year of limited antlerless and no buck. Thanks! Chris
- 16356 STOP YOUTH DEER HUNT!!! It does not help encourage youth to get into deer hunting and it hurts the buck population! If and I do mean and If a youth wants to deer HUNT they can bow hunt! Which brings up another subject. Anyone can buy a license at any age-- even a new born. GET REAL!!! Stop worrying about how much money the state of Wisconsin can make. Start thinking about our deer population AND what it means in terms of tourism in the local economy's---- northern townships especially which depend heavily on this to help keep things running till the snow flies up here.
- 16357 The population is definitely down considerably compared to previous years and what is there, are small. Long gone are the days of trophy bucks in this area. I've heard rumors of heavy local year round poaching and high volumes of off season crossbow activity since it became legal. A number of people in our party have already moved to different areas of the state for hunting. I anticipate more will be following this year. The last 2 years in Northern Marinette have been miserable. Something needs to change. You need to do something to rebuild the buck population.
- 16358 First off, nice job on getting the boundary changed to reflect more of what the northern forest area is. There was too much ag land included in the old northern forest area. With the smaller area of the zone and now a higher percentage of forest I don't understand why you are recommending to double the antlerless tags made available. The herd is still recovering and this along with our cold snow spring we are having will stop the herd recovery. I recommend keeping the antlerless tags at the same level as last year and let us continue rebuilding the herd.
- 16359 I have been bow and gun hunting both public and private land in northern Marinette County for nearly 20 years. For the last 6-8 years I have observed a decline in the deer population in the area I hunt. I frequently scout and put out several trail cameras each year, all year. I saw fewer deer last year than in years past. I have heard the same thing from neighbors and others in the area. I believe the northern forest unit in northern Marinette County should be buck only. I do not believe antlerless tags should be issued in this unit. Thank You
- 16360 There are few deer up here in northern Marinette County. This unit should be buck only. No doe (antlerless) tags need to be issued or sold. The out of town/out of state opening weekend hunters kill what deer (does) are left up here. Continuing and increasing doe tags will only make things worse and lower the declining number of deer up here. I like to at least see deer when I'm hunting, and I barely see any deer the way it is. Other counties are different with the deer population, but the northern forest units need to be kept buck only.
- 16361 1. Being an Avid Bowhunter (Compound) and investing much time into it per year I would like to see a 1 buck limit per year for hunter. A hunter would still be able to obtain to kill tags but one would have to be antlerless. This would protect many younger deer from being shot but also provide the opportunity to harvest some meat for the year. 2. I am in favor of an APR (Antler Point Restriction) being put into place. PLEASE look at the 12 counties in lower Michigan that implemented it and the success they are having with it. Thanks



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- 16362 Dnr need to go back to hunters choice tags and then limited doe tags. Sure isn't and never will be what hunting use to be in Marinette county. After all the dumb antlerless hunts and then reintroduce wolf which our ancestors worked so hard to eliminate. Wisconsin Dnr need to rethink how to manage the herd and stop worrying about cwd. Mother nature always takes care of itself with out the need of some pencil pushing punks that don't know what they are doing to mess up what was good in Wisconsin. Deer hunting!!!!
- 16363 I have hunted this same "Public" area for 69 years. In 2016 and 2017 I hunted 4 1/2 days. (dawn to dark). In 2016 I saw 2 deer (does), in 2017 I saw 1 doe (driving out at dark). NO Bucks! Something is dramatically wrong! We have virtually no Hunters. (Mulaney Creek trail). I Grouse hunt this area all Fall, and RARELY jump deer. My Son-in-Law has 2 cameras out (we move them periodically during the Fall). Very few pics of deer, and almost always at night. And, then, only an occasional spike buck.
- 16364 The tourism industry has taken a serious hit over recent years when our deer numbers crashed from over harvest. We are trying to rebuild the herd and start bringing more hunters and visitors back to the area to spend their money. Doubling or even increasing the doe tags will only hurt the herd and local businesses. I ask the committee to not increase the amount of doe tags given out. My business relays on hunters and visitors coming to spend money. Without your help I will be out of business soon.
- 16365 I hunt and hike public lands in the Northern Forest, and even though I didn't physically SEE deer, I see their sign all over! Deer browse lines in forests, very little understory vegetation (just the stuff deer don't eat like sedge), deer "highways" and tracks all over, and it's just getting more intense. There are too many deer in the Northern Forest and unless we harvest them responsibly, at best, we're never going to grow trophy bucks, and at worst, the herd will crash in a severe or long winter.
- 16366 Please please please listen to us on these surveys. We are supposed to be increasing the herd but the board recommends almost doubling the amount of antlerless tags available. Why? As I write this I look outside and see winter still bearing its teeth in a big way. The deer are now starting to struggle and fawn production will be down. Every year our area harvests MORE antlerless deer than the set quota, but yet the board recommends to increase tags. Please don't increase the number of tags.
- 16367 Regarding sale of bonus tags, the license stations selling permits were NOT informed of correct dates of sale. I went to 2 locations and neither of them knew the dates of sale and were totally uninformed, even when looking up the info on DNR site. The DNR website did not show the correct sale dates either. And please keep in mind, not everyone has access to a computer, therefore these selling stations are their only resource. It should NOT be this complicated!
- 16368 This unit has seen the deer numbers decrease over the years. It has stabilized somewhat but has not increased in the forested area. There are too many bear, wolves, and yotes taking a toll on the deer numbers. I see plenty of new forest tree regeneration so deer are not destroying the woods in this area. Increasing the antlerless tags will only hurt the deer numbers and start them decreasing again. Keep the antlerless tags at the same level as last year.
- 16369 A 1350 antlerless quota for the northern forest is way too high in my opinion. The final harvest will be over the quota as it is each year. The northern forest area shrunk in acres and the cdac wants to double the quota for that smaller area even as the area is listed as "increase". This makes no sense to me. The quota should be slightly less than it was last year so that we can continue to increase the deer numbers in this part of the county.
- 16370 I recently spent a long weekend snowshoeing at our cabin near Amberg. I covered over 15 miles over 3 days and it took me 2 days to cut a fresh deer track. I did however see more bobcat tracks than I've ever seen before and once I did finally find some fresh deer tracks I immediately cut fresh coyote tracks nearby. I think there are too many predators to increase the doe tags by the amount proposed. Thank you for your work with our wild resources



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- 16371 This winter has gone from pretty mild WSI to very severe on the deer because it won't leave. The charts and DNR won't say it because their charts look at the whole winter. But early spring is the toughest time for deer and with all this snow and cold the deer are in trouble. Spring green up can't come fast enough. Doubling the antlerless quota will hurt the herd even more and wipe out our recent gains. Please don't increase the quota.
- 16372 Stop with all the extra hunting antlerless deer hunts. It sure is taking the fun out of hunting. Now seeing one deer for the gun season is amazing. There are just no deer around anymore. Makes you want to start hunting other states who are going in the right direction. It's not fun to sit for nine days and see one deer for a group of four guys. Every year we see less deer. I just think the doe hunts are destroying the sport I once loved.
- 16373 Trespassing, violating, and ill mannered and dangerous hunting practices have been common. No communication from wardens after reports of game violations were made. Rules should be in place to for the size of bucks taken so larger ones are more prevalent. In Florence county last year I saw dead and wounded animals left by hunters. It seems your more interested in lining your pockets with license fees than good deer management.
- 16374 Each year a quota is set. And every year when the final numbers come in we harvest way more antlerless deer than the set quota but then increase the available tags the next year. That makes no sense to me. The proposed number is MUCH too high!!!! As I write this the ground is covered in snow with more on the way and spring is no where in sight. A cold wet late spring is very bad. Yet here we go increasing the tags again.
- 16375 I feel there are too many antlerless deer in this area. We regularly feed deer here and it is not uncommon to see 10-18 does and no bucks feeding. We also have a food plot in our private land and over the course of a summer, the does outnumber bucks at least 20-1 based on trail camera pictures. I feel the does eat too much of the food and therefore we do not have a healthy buck to doe ratio to support a healthy population.
- 16376 I would like to see DNRCDAC come up with a plan for zones like Northern Marinette Woodlands that would allow local residents first dibs on antlerless tags. Living here year-round and spotting deer all summer only to not be able to get an antlerless tag is frustrating. To have a one day or 12 hour window for year-round resident only in the Northern Marinette Woodland zone would be nice for the local population. Thank you
- 16377 I'm afraid of CWD coming to this area, and would like to see baiting banned. The amount of bait used and the correlation between making deer more nocturnal seems to be happening in this area. Deer do not have too move and feed, they bed till dark then move to the bait piles. Limited bait does not work, as many do not follow these rules. Some private land owners over bait and pull deer from nearby public land.
- 16378 I feel the antlerless quota/bonus permits is a little too high considering we just had a boundary change. I would like to see it lowered and see how the first season under the new boundary plays out. Even though the deer herd in the northern forest unit has increased in general, there are still a lot of people with minimal deer in their area. Many people feel it could still use improvement.
- 16379 Way to many doe tags for this unit. The wolves have taken over and the deer are gone. Doe tags for juniors is a good idea. Anything to get the youth involved more. Don't get rid of the group tag and wreck that like the backtag, tagging, and registration has really put a damper on deer season. No more tradition anymore. Doubt anyone will listen to these surveys anyway.
- 16381 I saw many more deer during last year's hunt than the previous year even though the was no acorn in the area. I truly believe that if there was acorn I will see more deer last year. With mild winter the last couple years plus very limited number of antler less tag issued, I can see the number of fawn surviving the cold weather and the general population increase.
- 16380 We had 18 people total in our party and only filled 7 tags in 2017. This has never happened before. We usually fill almost all tags. We passed on a small handful of smaller deer. Deer population, especially Bucks seem to be way down. Spoke to numerous other parties during the 10 day hunt who shared similar concerns. Hunting west of Hwy 141 on both sides of HWY 8.



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- 16382 With youth and mentoring program way to many does will be taken if a kid starts at 6 years of age that is way to many does take every year I see parents come up with multiple kids to basically meat hunt . Need to limit the youth limit to one then you are a regular basis Hunter and have to follow the rules just like the adult hunters that's how I was brought up.
- 16384 need to stop letting youth shoot does i can see your first deer then after that you are a hunter . no youth hunt they want to hunt let them be hunters. we are making the youth in to a bunch of babies. this is like letting youth go fishing for sturgeon during the spawning season . lets get real you do this for to long you will not have a hunting season .
- 16383 When I first started hunting deer in this unit 13 years ago. I seen many more deer. The last two years I have only seen one deer all week. The deer herd in the area is already low. Giving out more doe tags only will make it worse. Earlier in the survey it said you wanted to increase the number of deer in that unit. In that area there should be no doe tags.
- 16385 I hunt 40 acres in Amberg, i have 2 nice lush food plots. of which i employ 3 new trail cams. and use 2 other cams surrounding these plots on travel routes. I am lucky to get 1 small buck on camera all year. I regularly see the same doe with fawn in the course of a season. for the past 2 seasons I have not seen a deer while on stand.
- 16386 The way bonus antlerless tag are issued is wrong for how few are issued This should be a lottery system of some sort. By the time some people have an opportunity to purchase bonus tags they are sold out. The landowner and public tags are wrong. Everyone should have the same opportunities to harvest antlerless deer on public lands.
- 16387 Bucks need to have a point restrictions. 3 pts on 1 side. Not all does are getting bread. After logging roads need to be blocked off. Deer need habitat were trucks cant drive up to. It s called hunting not drive to my stand because I hunted here for 30 yrs. The discussions should be about the deer not the lazy hunters.
- 16388 There is just starting to be an acceptable amount of deer in this unit compared to other years, population is almost to where I would consider it fair for the farmers hunters and the insurance companies, we have enough winter, predator and natural mortality that we don't need to up the amount of Anterless tags.
- 16389 Marinette County is the 3rd largest county in the state. To have it zoned into two areas is absolutely ridiculous. Someone in the southern section of the Northern Forest zone may see less deer then someone up towards the tip. Break the county down into more sections to better understand what each area needs.
- 16390 would really like to see a preference point system for antlerless tags in northern zones. It's been 3-4 years since me or my son have had an antlerless tag for public land. Even having to take vacation days since they go on sale on Mondays and still coming up short for tag after 3-4 hours on line.
- 16391 The quota proposed by the cdac committee is much too high for the forest area. The forest area shrunk in size and by doubling the quota the herd will not continue to increase. Throw in our late spring which will hurt the new fawn crop and the herd will probably decrease with this high quota.
- 16392 over the past 17 years I have seen a very steady decline in numbers the worst drops coming in the last three years. in the past year I have found three wolf kills of deer. you will ether have to stop the antlerless hunts or bring back the wolf hunt to maintain and incresse the deer population
- 16393 as I am sure you are aware, there are many less deer now than there were 30 years ago. I assume that is because of the bear, wolf and coyote populations which have increased significantly over that time period. I would like to see the predator population reduced.
- 16394 I stop gun deer hunting 6 year ago due to the low deer herd. My family and friend no longer hunt by me even the family that comes from out of state to hunt. They just visit now due to the they have a better chance of getting a deer in their own state



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- 16395 I feel in our area between Crooked lake and Parkway Road we are finally seeing more deer so I would Like to see deer population keep getting better so The grandkids can see good hunting for years to come and may be I can finally get the big one .
- 16396 Let everyone have a chance at harvesting a deer. Stop giving out bonus tags. There's no reason for 1 person to be able to harvest 3 or 4 deer with all the tags some folks get while others are forced with buck only tags.
- 16397 I would like to be able to take a buck or a doe during the bow season. I see way more does than bucks. See more does on the trail cam. I'm 67 years old and it would be nice to have a choice on what I wanted to harvest.
- 16398 Since this has been a reasonable mild winter with little snow the herd may grow without adequate harvest. If that is the case then habitat would deteriorate and it would not hold as many deer in the future.
- 16399 I have observed that the effects of browse on plants in the woods is increasing. I am afraid that if the deer herd is not kept at the levels they are at now, it will affect the regeneration of our forest.
- 16400 With this winters long lasting snowfall and the lower deer sightings of last year I recommend NO bonus tags for the Northern Forest Public land and very few tags in the Private Sector of Marinette County.
- 16401 I HAVE TO MANY NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS THAT I KNOW USED FARMLAND TAGS IN THE NORTHERN FOREST UNIT BUT I CANNOT TURN THEM IN BECAUSE LIKE I SAID THEY ARE FRIENDS OR I ONE CASE AFRAID OF THEIR CRAZY FAMILY.
- 16402 I think a resident land owner should have preference over private land bonus tags since the damage done by overpopulation is done to this property with no reimbursement from the state.
- 16403 We hunt only woods. Hunting party of 14 with teens and adults. The past 4 years we have taken 4 bucks 3 doe. It is very hard to get young hunters interested with few deer sighting.
- 16404 Do away with all the special seasons and go back to the way it was with a gun season bow season and muzzle season. Do away with baiting and tree stands and get back to real hunting!
- 16405 your questions can be misleading Examples Is over browsing a concern Yes But I don't see any evidence of it. Deer health a concern yes again I don't see any evidence of a problem.
- 16406 If you want to harvest more deer outlaw baiting Baiting deer turns the quality deer nocturnal Every deer that is harvested is full of corn With out a corn field within 10 miles
- 16407 If the goal is to increase the deer population in the Northern forest Region of Marinette County which I agree with, why do you continue to allow the harvest of antlerless deer??
- 16409 Too many bear. My hunting partner and myself had more bear on game cameras than deer. We also had 3 of our treestands wrecked by bear. Please, this needs to be addressed.
- 16408 I saw 1 deer last year for hunting in our area. even scouting the number deer seen was limited. the heard in the northern woodlands is not as abundant as you would think.
- 16410 The population in this unit has been down for around 6 years, from what ive seen while sitting. My opinion, there should be a less antlerless deer taken for a few years.
- 16411 If the goal is to increase deer numbers why id DNR recommending doubling the antlerless quota and number of tags - especially after a very hard winter/spring?? Crazy!!!
- 16412 STOP BAITING !!! ALSO TO MANY HUNTERS ARE USING THE ANLERLESS YOUTH TAGS TO PUT MEAT IN THE FREEZER..... THE TAG IS FOR THE YOUTH AND NOT AN ADULT HUNTER TO USE.
- 16413 I would like to see a shorter crossbow season. Also should not allow baiting as a proactive approach to help prevent the spreading of CWD into the area.



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- 16414 The dnr says they want to increase the population yet they want to give more doe tags. I'm not sure if this is a typo or just poor decision making.
- 16415 I would love it if baiting was banned in our area! Tired of everyone around us having huge corn piles out for the deer. Just banned it already!!!
- 16416 Keep up working with the public. I feel the sportsman and sportswomen are willing to do what it takes to have a good relationship with the DNR .
- 16417 Too many deer. They are eating all of the natural forest regeneration. We need to significantly reduce the deer numbers.
- 16418 One buck per hunter using either gun or bow open from oct 1 to dec 31. Same with antlerless and close when quota is met
- 16419 Do not change crossbow hunting regulations in the State. This brings more hunters into the woods young and old.
- 16420 I think your quotas are about right. We need to be able to get tags to control the population on private land.
- 16421 let the population stabilize itself over the next three years, THEN...take corrective action, if any.
- 16422 Please leave the current crossbow season as is. Like 2017. Also do not change the group hunting law.
- 16423 I am very concerned about the impacts of deer on the ability to regenerate valuable tree species.
- 16424 Lots of wolves in the area. Only saw two deer in 2016 gun season, didn't see any in 2017.
- 16425 i would like to see antler restrictions to allow more bucks to reach their full potential
- 16426 I would like all baiting for our management unit and the entire state stopped.
- 16427 1375 is WAY too many antlerless permits. Keep it the same as last year.
- 16428 I had over 25 does on 4 days of hunting and only 1 buck - which I shot
- 16430 Stop shooting die make bucks have to be 4 point or bigger to kill
- 16429 i have seen more black bears in the past 5 to 6 years in the area
- 16431 Very concerned about cwd, believe baiting should be banned
- 16432 We need to get rid of wolf population - to many
- 16433 DO NOT SHORTEN THE CROSSBOW SEASON!!!
- 16434 Do not shorten the crossbow season
- 16435 stop area proching
- 18049



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Marquette, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

191 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 93
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 35
I hunt in this unit: 148
General interest in this unit: 54

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 140
Bow: 100
Crossbow: 61
Muzzleloader: 63

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 20.36
Maximum: 57

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 99
Mostly Private Land: 26
Public and Private Land About Equally: 14
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 6
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 16
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
Somewhat crowded: 8
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 7

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 55
Fewer: 49
Same: 64
More: 9
Many More: 11
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	5	12	51	49	64	10



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	4	59	52	60	14
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	7	51	49	62	18

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	7	65	112	7

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:

Not applicable in this DMU

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	51	130	10
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	76	102	12
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	18	125	15
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

Average Rating

Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.34
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.86
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.27
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.52
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.27
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.30
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.27
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.80
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.11
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.43



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Comments for Marquette, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16436 I have been hunting in Marquette county on the nature conservancy since I purchased my lake parcel 5 years ago. In 5 years of hunting I have seen exactly two deer and that was 5 years ago. All you need to do is look at the private to public land success rates to see that hunting in Wisconsin has become a "private Landowners" season. You keep saying the herd is too large and while that may be a representation of private land, I don't believe it's true of public lands. the numbers show a 10 to 1 success when comparisons are made. I drive by stand after permanent stand that are visible from the road that are on private land. I used to own a parcel that i hunted and was successful because i put up my permanent stand and hunted from it. I will turn 64 years old by the next season and not physically able to climb a tree with a tree climber, you don't allow ladder stands to be erected and left up over night unless you are north of hwy 64. Why does that hwy mean so much? if you were really concerned about safety you wouldn't expect a hunter to go out in the wee hours of the morning in the dark of night to try to put up a ladder stand in the dark. It's impossible to do safely. Not to mention the commotion you make. I can't even go out and set up a ground blind a day ahead and leave it up for the season. I keep hearing about how concerned people are with the dwindling numbers of hunters. If you were really concerned about hunters you would adopt some changes so those of us that hunt public land and are not as physically capable of jumping thru your hoops are able to get out in the woods and be successful. Time to open your eyes. Time for some common sense changes. I won't hold my breath. I suspect I will be dead and in the ground before you wise up.

16437 I continue to believe based on visual sightings and camera monitoring that our deer #'s, specifically does, are too high on our property and area properties as well. The amount of winter browse, even on conifers, is significant even though we have significant ag food sources around us. We are involved with habitat improvement efforts and have to have to cage & tube all of the trees & conifers as if left unprotected they are over browsed. We have areas on our land where there are 1000's of small 2'-3' high oaks & dogwood that cannot grow any higher because of deer browse. We regularly see doe's with twins & triplets. Issuing more "free" doe tags is a passive approach that has shown no result in reducing deer #'s with 2017 being the lowest antlerless & total harvest in the past 4 years. EAB should be brought back as the requirement of shooting a doe as it insures a balanced harvest. More bucks reaching another year or two of maturity will improve hunter satisfaction and tourism. Would also advocate that we go to a (1) buck tag for all weapons and increase the price of a buck tag for out of state hunters to . Frustrating to see farmers given crop damage tags, then offered crop insurance and low property taxes at the same time. Private land owners are clearly subsidizing this and should also be given an incentive. Why not 1 additional buck tag for a special December hunt for every 3 does harvested or extending the muzzle loader season? We also need more deer donation sites in Marquette County. The closet one to us is 40 minutes away. Having more sites would help support a higher harvest if it were easier to donate.



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- 16438 People want to see deer when hunting. Over the past 5 years the deer seen during gun season has tremendously decreased. Almost to the point many people I talk to are to quit gun hunting. People are only gunna shoot what they want to eat and for most that's only one or two. Having they youth hunt one weekend and another early antlerless hunt another weekend really affects the deer being seen. The deer are so sacred after gun season begins they only move at night adding a holiday hunt is just gunna make this worse. Most landowners have said in the past they don't allow hunters to gun hunt after muzzleloader. This is because of the low number of deer seen and how stressed the deer are. With the holiday hunt there is very little chance to late bow hunt before you get into the frigidness of January. I would support giving archery hunters a two buck tags. A lot gun hunters are waiting for a trophy buck so if they have the chance for two during archery they can focus on shooting antlerless. Otherwise during archery making a second buck tag earn a buck this will make a lot of people happy and could increase antlerless harvest. An antlerless only season would be devastating to deer hunting in the county. Most landowners I have talked to say they they wouldn't even hunt if it were antlerless only. I have considered not gun hunting due to the terrible numbers lately and traveling to another state to hunt. I know several other people that feel the same. Killing 10k antlerless would dramatically decrease population and have a very negative effect on hunting in this county.
- 16439 I believe that they should consider opening up a late season gun/bow hunt antlered AND antlerless deer in late December from December 22nd through January 6th. Bow and Crossbow season should be extended from January 6th through February 28th in quota areas. Metropolitan deer populations (in metro and non metro zones) should be monitored by the DNR with expectations that local municipalities and counties be advised to use local police/sheriff sharp shooters or local bow/crossbow hunters to shoot deer in those areas as large deer populations in those areas may contribute to disease and property damage. Baiting should be banned state wide for hunting, recreation and home owners. Consider a change in the definition of illegal baiting and feeding deer to include any food source placed in any container or structure regardless of how close it is to a home or structure. If any deer are coming to feed, it is considered illegal baiting or feeding. This would exclude food plots. Educate residents and non hunters on the impact of CWD. Consider a deer trapping season (large box traps) in quota areas. Consider concentrating deer with water and permitted baiting stations with requirement that 100% of the deer coming to the station are killed in a special herd reduction hunt by permit only in areas where quotas are not being met. Continue to educate hunters on how difficult it is to eliminate prion diseases like CDW from an area once it occurs. The only solution to CWD and other diseases is to increase deer removed through hunting and predation.
- 16440 I am a snowmobiler and I totally oppose the Holiday Hunt! Our season depends on Mother Nature and I don't feel it is fair for you to take 10 days away from us. You can hunt no matter what the weather. The Snowmobiling industry also brings lots of revenue to our county. Personally, I feel if you can't get a deer from Sept. to the first part of Dec., then you certainly shouldn't be in the woods at all. In your survey, in 2017, there were 8000 bonus antlerless tags available for private land and only 580 were sold. Doesn't this tell you there aren't that many deer hunters are seeing? If you have to have this hunt, why not do it in the Spring. Have it the first week in April. Snowmobile season is done, and turkey season hasn't started yet - perfect time to do it! Simple solution! No one then gets cheated out of time to enjoy their sport. I don't have specific numbers, but I think there were only 140 deer taken in Marquette County in the last hunt. Is all this mess worth 140 deer? Also, it has been mentioned that there were no snowmobilers at your first meeting. That is because no one was informed the meeting was happening. I truly hope we could come to an agreement so this argument doesn't happen yearly. Thanks



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- 16441 Public lands are taking (and did take during the EAB ears) a large doe over harvest. Areas I used to hunt on public have not rebounded. I now hunt private with neighbors that have huge populations of does, and own large tracts of land. We have 23 acres. How can you make them harvest more? We can't hunt their land, but they also want us to shoot more does! How about an incentive to hunters who bag 3 does (PRIVATE LAND ONLY) could earn an extra buck tag? Youth season hunters to ONLY harvest does (antlerless). Crossbows should only be for doe (antlerless) only during archery season, Buck or doe during fun and muzzleloader season. Buck kill is only going to get higher every year with crossbow season. I'm my opinion that is why antlerless is not very high. Hunters are seeing does but still want to see 30 deer a day. Not a balanced herd. I saw more and bigger bucks during the EAB era, it just got to out of hand on public hunting where everyone would go there to shoot their does, instead of private land. If a guy could shoot a second buck with the harvest of more does, that would help private land guys shoot more or the same amount of antlerless deer.
- 16442 3 antlerless tags is far too many. It encourages people to over harvest what they can use. 1 buck and 1 doe tag is enough per license with the addition to purchase bonus tags for people that really hunt for meat such as myself. My neighbors overcrowd their property with hunters reducing the chance that I see deer. More importantly before the age change my son, 10 yrs old, had his first deer season last year, and it's more important to me that he have a chance to harvest a deer than myself. Real hunters won't fill all the tags you want to give them, killers will. Hunting is a great resource we have in this great state, I believe handing out that many tags will eventually reduce the deer numbers too much that it won't be an enjoyable experience in the woods anymore for people like myself and the next generation of hunters such as my son if they never see any deer. Ultimately reducing revenue for the state and the end in the long run if there's no deer to hunt. Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback.
- 16443 Once again here I am having to comment on the complete and utter ignorance you continue to maintain. In your comments you state that last year Marquette county did not reach or achieve its quota. Therefore you recommend a 3 year decrease of the herd. Did you ever stop to think for a moment that perhaps the herd is so depleted for your over harvest practices that reaching a quota let alone an absurd quota is not possible? Open your eyes people, we are killing off our deer herd not helping it. We have 6 family members that hunt deer with bow and gun and now for the third year in a row we went deerless for the season. My son and I hunted every day of the 2017 gun season and between us saw 5 deer! 5 deer and you say we have a problem? You're right we do and it's you! Stop this nonsense NOW, no antlerless slaughter, no ridiculous holiday hunt and for God sakes stop the threat and thought of an all antlerless season. That in and of itself is lunacy!
- 16444 During the past 24 years I have been hunting on the same privately owned farm in Marquette County I have seen deer sightings drop significantly. Overall, I believe the deer population to be high relative to other counties, but also believe that it is highly localized (e.g. deer numbers are high in areas where similar management strategies are preformed among neighboring land owners). In there localized areas where deer populations are high I believe that land owners are able to manage the herds successfully by allowing each hunter a total of two antlerless permits per year (1 for bow, 1 for gun, or 2 in total). A greater concern would be to ensure more testing for CWD and specifically EHD are completed. In recent years the number of dead deer I have found on my property is staggering. I believe the cause to be EHD. Issues arise over reporting dead deer because I do not find them until spring because I am careful to not pressure our land too much.



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- 16445 I do not want a Holiday Hunt to happen in Marquette County again this year. Our snowmobile trails could not open to due to the holiday hunt in 2016. A lot of my friends did not even hunt during that time. Snowmobile trail openings are extremely limited due to time frame, and we lost a good percentage of that last year. I heard a lot of complaints from community businesses, and fellow riders about them not being able to open. The hunt is from 24th to 1st, but we could not open at all during December due to 1 landowner not wanting them opened before the hunt. Due to 1 landowner out of 74 that said no, we respected his decision and closed them prior. And once Jan 2nd came, all the snow was gone. There are so many other hunting opportunities in this great state, I feel the Holiday Hunt is not needed. Talking with hunters, they say the population is already low. There are fewer deer now.
- 16446 The main objection I have is not the amount of harvested deer on public land, but the density of hunters and unequal harvesting across public. Some areas during the gun deer hunt there are 30 cars in a single parking area and the public land is a sea of orange. This is not safe, nor is it a practical way to manage deer harvest as some areas most of the deer are killed, or worse yet for management the human density is so high that all animals are pushed out onto private land. A better way to manage would be lottery for the different public land areas. You can control how many deer are harvested in the different areas. Cost of the extra administration is offset simply by an added \$10 fee for public land deer harvest permit. It would probably be a revenue generator in the long run. This would only be needed for deer rifle, not archer or muzzle loader.
- 16447 HOW IS THE DNR GOING TO GET THE DEER OFF THE LAND THAT PEOPLE DONT ALLOW HUNTING? MORE AND MORE LAND OWNERS DONT HUNT, AND THEY HAVE MADE LARGE SAFE HAVENS FOR THE DEER. SPREADING DEER HUNTING OUT OVER MORE DAYS JUST PUT MORE PRESSURE ON THE DEER. PUSHING THEM INTO CITY LIMITS AND DEER SAFE HAVENS SO HUNTER DONT GET A CHANCE TO GET THEM. SECOND I SNOWMOBILE CHANGING HUNTING DATE INFRINGES ON MY CHANCE TO USE THE TRAIL SYSTEMS. SNOWMOBILE HAS SET DATES WHEN THEY CAN OPEN AND CLOSE. LESS THAN 4 MONTHS RIGHT NOW, WE CANT USE THE TRAIL SYSTEMS WHILE GUN HUNTING IS GOING ON. BEING MOST OF THE TRAILS ARE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY. WE NEED TO GET A BLANCE BETWEEN HUNTING AND SNOWMOBILING IN THE STATE. DEER HUNTING IS NOW PUSHING 5 MONTHS OF THE YEAR, THAT WOULD PUT SNOWMOBILING DOWN TO 3 MONTHS OF THE YEAR. DESTROYING THE SPORT AND MANY PEOPLE LIVELIHOOD IN WISCONSIN!
- 16448 Stop taking season length away from bow hunters! Adding at the end is no gift for a bow hunter in cold weather. A gun hunter can sit in a heated shack pretty tough for a bowhunter to shoot out of. Holiday hunts are senseless if they couldnt get deer during the long gun/muzzleloader season its not going to help much except taking away a bowhunters chance at a buck at that time. HOW ABOUT LETTING A HUNTER BUY 2 BUCK TAGS AND USE THEM WITH WHAT EVER WEAPON THEY CHOOSE DURING THAT SEASON? Lots of hunters would rather just bowhunt or just gun hunt and do away with group gun hunting or let the archers do it too. If your worried about numbers that would appeal to alot of hunters. And fyi I take does every year based on what i see on the property i hunt. Kids get pretty bored hunting if they dont see deer. once you lost them its hard to get them back.
- 16449 Please get more input from HUNTERS who were out there in the 1960's and 1970's...the deer population in Marquette County was vastly higher back then...the PEOPLE population in the county is what is rising and causing the deer/car accidents...decrease speed not the deer heard. Also...deer are not damaging the forests in Marquette County...can't keep up with the new trees sprouting up as a matter of fact - show me where in the county that the deer are doing damage to trees...I laugh when I read that one! Stop all of the road trophy hunting that is going on in Marquette County...not enough done to curb that problem. Bring back back tags so there is accountability for bad behavior on both public land and for trespasser identification on private land...and bring back deer carcass tags please - no tag for deer is a joke.



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- 16450 Your numbers are skewed, the word decrease should be changed with eradicate. The number of "special" hunts need to STOP along with the liberal tags your handing out like candy. Over the years my deer hunting has been "out of state", the quantity but more importantly the quality of hunting in Wisconsin is terrible to say it kindly. Last season in the area I bow hunt in this zone doe sightings were zero and bucks one spike while in stand, trail camera pics two does and one three pointer and turkeys which is off topic but throw that total in there as well which was zero. I spend most of my money and vacation time in other states where the quality of hunting is like night and day difference in comparison. What was once a decent place to hunt is now just something we can talk about how it use to be.
- 16451 I would like to see the number of doe tags we get with our tags dropped to 1 per weapon. The reason is because I have talked to people on public land that will fill every tag they are given, even if the area is low in deer numbers. I Understand some of the county needs reduction in numbers due to over browse and numerous other things. I just have seen a great public land spot go to barely worth hunting in the last decade. I feel a big part is due to people that get however many tags and just shoot however many deer they can. If you are unable to drop the amount of tags we get per license, can you please consider dropping the bonus tags (public land) down to around 100 instead of 2000. I feel that would help the population on public land hopefully. Thanks for your time, Jason K.
- 16452 Another frustrating year of deer hunting in 2017. Population numbers have decreased in our area again. I sat in the stand all opening weekend, saw zero deer. Such a quiet opening weekend, hardly even heard a shot. There are pockets in the county where there are many deer but many more pockets where there are very few. Please consider more Ag. tags to assist those that have an over population. But for the rest of us let the population rebuild. There are too many hunters experiencing a lack of deer. I am hearing of too many hunters giving it up, and I understand why. I also am thinking of not buying a license this year, there just isn't a point anymore. It's sad that such a positive tradition is in a downward spiral in our state.
- 16453 It would be nice to have a holiday hunt and/or extend the archery season to January 31 to allow people that hunt on private land the opportunity to reduce the heard in localized hot spots that need it. It was disappointing that there was not a holiday hunt this past season due to the snowmobile clubs in the county not wanting to lose out on days to possibly have the trails open. It's south central Wisconsin, if you're lucky one out of ten years you will have snow between Christmas and New Years to ride a snowmobile. A majority of those trails go across the private land where there is a need to reduce deer numbers with the holiday hunt if those landowners feel the need to. Thanks for the opportunity to voice our opinions!
- 16454 I oppose a Holiday hunt as it completely shuts down recreational sports such as snowmobiling over a high tourist time. Snowmobiling is completely dependent on weather and recently the time for snow is becoming more and more reduced. In 2016, the trails did not open for the first 3 wks of our very short season and snow was on the ground. By having a holiday hunt, which closed all trails for a few hunters, you are limiting many who enjoy snowmobiling and the time of the year when most can enjoy it. If increasing the number of tags can achieve the same decrease or increasing the length of bow season, then by all means do it. However the Holiday hunt effects businesses and snowmobilers alike significantly!!
- 16455 I strongly oppose the holiday hunt because I am a snowmobiler, the deer season is already 4 months long if you can't fill your freezer or kill enough deer in that amount of time some thing is wrong, why you do you have to cut into our season if we get snow. There has to be a better way than having a holiday hunt or extending the bow season to the end of January. From what I have seen there are very few hunters out during the holiday hunt if there is a lot of snow like there was in December of 2016. May be you should try having a spring deer hunt over EASTER holiday? Snowmobiling brings a lot of money to the local business in the area if we have snow! So please vote no for the holiday hunt.



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- 16456 I strongly oppose a Holiday Hunt in Marquette county or neighboring counties for that matter. There is already ample time to harvest a deer with the current season structure we have, we do not need the additional Holiday Hunt. The deer are already stressed from the continual seasons we already have and this late December is a time the deer should be left undisturbed to help them make it through the winter. Also, I believe if a Holiday Hunt is held, you can not snowmobile during that time. We have a very minimal snowmobiling season around here already and do not need to loose another week if we should have a decent snow season. NO HOLIDAY HUNT IN MARQUETTE COUNTY! Thank you.
- 16457 2016 appeared to provide a positive trend in buck to doe ratios and overall deer numbers in our area. 2017 changed dramatically, we were no longer seeing decent numbers of mature bucks and for numbers appeared to be lower by all indication. The ratio observed on cameras appeared to be 1:1 and most bucks observed were 1.5 year old deer. Because of this, I do not support offering the same number of antlerless tags in 2018, nor do I support a 4 day December for hunt or a holiday doe hunt. We need to limit the amount of antlerless tags in 2018 and remove the additional doe hunts. Let the herd grow and become balanced once again.
- 16458 I am opposed to the Holiday hunt only. In 2016, a Holiday hunt was implemented which closed the snowmobile trails until after the 1st of the year!! A time when many visit their cabins to have fun on the snowmobile trails and snow was on the ground. Season for snowmobiling is shorter these days with uncertainty with weather and making the season shorter for a few hunters is wrong! It effects businesses as well. Decreasing the population of deer is important and using other techniques such as increasing tags is fine, but it should NOT effect another recreational sport!!
- 16459 I am an avid deer hunter but we should not control the woods for the entire year. Safety is not mentioned in survey. No one outside the hunting world would know to wear orange around the holidays. No one is allowed to walk on most hunting land before seasons are over. You would actually harvest more deer if you compressed the season and people would shoot and track deer when others hunters were in the woods. Besides that, a fourth of the hunters are not bothering with licenses or calling them in. Maybe more. Lots of gunshots all fall.
- 16460 No Holiday hunting season. It greatly impacts snowmobiling and businesses during the holiday season since it closes the trails for 3 wks after regular opening day. During this time, many tourists come and will snowmobile bringing vital business during winter months. Increasing number of tags or antlerless season will be more effective than a holiday hunt. Imagine if snowmobilers caused the hunting season to shorten by 3 wks! Recommendations to control the population should focus on those that do not effect other recreational sports.
- 16461 Winter / Snow enthusiasts do NOT want the Holiday Hunt. The general public also overwhelmingly does NOT want the Holiday hunt. I understand that deer in many areas of the County are plentiful overall. Why can't we have a high population and keep it? I feel the herd is a nice size currently. It seems like Hunters are content. The deer population should reflect what the majority of people of the County want. If there are pockets of problem areas, the landowners need to willingly be given the ability to curb their own issues.
- 16462 The proposals to limit crossbow season length is ridiculous. Data shows that there is no positive info to back these personal vendetta's from people that aren't elderly, disabled and physically unable to draw long/compound bows. The State want's more deer harvested, and crossbows help in doing that. Before you allow any question on the agenda for voting, you should research their proposals before allowing them to be placed on these agenda's. Don't change what has been working to help reduce deer numbers in Wisconsin.
- 16463 Having a Holiday Hunt will adversely affect a snowmobile season which is already much too short and has seen closed trails in Marquette County the last 3 seasons due to lack of snow. It's bad timing to now propose a Holiday Hunt which would then virtually destroy yet another season. Snowmobiling allows you to view the beauty of the nature and land of Wisconsin, not to mention the people that are supporting businesses that are in need of patrons during the winter months all along the trail.



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- 16464 I feel that you could give out another 10,000 antlerless permits without having an effect on deer herd numbers. Statistics have shown that hunters harvest about the same number of deer no matter the number of permits issued. The County CDAC's need to be able to use tools such as Earn a Buck which has proven to be an effective tool. Politics need to be taken out of management and science put back in. People should also be made more aware of the issues associated with CWD.
- 16465 Please reset all hunting seasons to what they used to be. All of these extra seasons only go to changing the deer patterns in a negative way. As a bow hunter having a youth hunt sends the deer into their nocturnal pattern much sooner. Also a 10 year old is not emotionally nor physically strong enough to handle the hunt. They should have to wait till the November hunt like everyone ahead of them had too. Let bow hunters have their uninterrupted season to manage the herd.
- 16466 Glad to see holiday hunt. I hunted it two years ago and it is a very enjoyable time to hunt. Got a doe in holiday hunt and I will definitely hunt it again if it is offered. Snowmobiles should not be bothered since we can all tell the difference between a deer and a snowmobile. The hunt is needed to reduce the herd. Wolves north of Westfield make the deer more cautious. We see a lot less deer than five years ago or so. There are still enough deer though.
- 16467 Our goal is to harvest more deer in an over populated and to increase the number of hunters to the sport. Both are trending down and in decline. Therefore, leave the crossbow use alone. If more people want to use crossbows instead of compounds, so be it. This is the same as not allowing scopes on muzzleloaders for years. The goal is to reduce deer numbers to combat cwd and increase overall hunters numbers. Don't penalize crossbow Users
- 16468 I have been thinking of hunting this county for the past several year. Based on numbers of tags available and tags sold it appears that people seem to think that the deer population is not as high as some would like and thus not buying tags. The antlerless kill also seems to indicate that the population is not that high. I don't know if increasing tags is the best way to INCREASE the herd. You have a tough job!! Good Luck!!
- 16469 We can't shoot deer if they aren't there the population has been overestimated only 25 % of the antlerless tags are getting filled which is horrible success rate those same 3000 antlerless deer will get shot if you issue 4500 tags because that's about how many deer are on the land scape and the public is opposed to mass issuing of tags We also do not need a holiday hunt or extended season
- 16470 Return the use of crossbows to a disabled permits only. I have a crossbow permit for disabled reasons. When I bought it and shot it, I thought to myself these should not be generally legal to hunt with. I think the harvest numbers will bear it out that crossbows have now out gained traditional archery kills. I think the deer populations would recover if this would be enacted.
- 16471 I agree with the statement that deer numbers in this unit are poorly distributed through the county. I caution the management goals to not overharvest too much as I have seen the drastic decline of deer in Dodge county. Once the deer numbers are down hunters will drop out of the sport like they have been. I hope you can find the right balance for a healthy/abundant deer herd.
- 16472 people who own large tracts of land who don't hunt deer or allow deer hunting on the land should be penalized for creating refuges that withhold and prevent public Game animals from being harvested and hunted. Also these large numbers of deer are a health threat to the wild Herd in general and their numbers are included in the aerial census that the rest of us are subject to.
- 16473 These tag numbers are way too high. The herd density verses the carrying capacity of the land can not be that far off. Maybe 2 tags per license but not 3. 10,000 bonus tags is also way too many. Obviously hunters don't want that many tags which was shown by only a portion of the bonus tags in 2017 being sold. Just look at the kill number even with this many tags out there.



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- 16474 I would like to voice my concern over the current crossbow season structure. I feel there is no need to have the season run the same as archery. I understand many strong opinions exist on this and I think with a few seasons to analyze there will be ample data to support shortening the crossbow season. Crossbows simply are too effective to be granted such a long season.
- 16475 I do not want to see another holiday hunt in the Marquette County area. It greatly impacts the revenue of local businesses from snowmobilers and winter enthusiasts that come to our area during the holiday season. Also please do not extend the hunting times due to persons that don't allow the snowmobile trails to run on their land. Please NO HOLIDAY HUNT!!
- 16476 No holiday hunt and no extended bow season 4 months of chasing deer and trying to keep people that can't see a deer off your private property is enough this cdac committee has demonstrated that it is interested more in its personal agenda than what the majority of the public wants prove me wrong reduce tag amounts and please no holiday hunt
- 16477 Deer numbers have gone down 75 percent in the 6 years I have been here going somewhere else to hunt when you can't even get pictures of deer at night you know there aren't any we don't need a holiday hunt crack committee should use there common sense and not listen to the wildlife manager who is over estimating the deer population
- 16478 This county used to be one of the best deer counties now you can't even get picture of a deer much less see one the last thing we should do is reduce the population and have a holiday hunt also if we did get snow snowmobile trails would be closed because of holiday hunt you already took all the deer away don't take snowmobiling too
- 16479 The deer numbers are starting to exceed the carrying capacity of the land, if something is not done it will be back to the old days of all doe and no bucks. If the state would change its mind earn-a-buck should be brought back, it worked! The holiday hunt is a very important part of the heard control.
- 16480 I think there should be a doe hunt in the beginning of March... I have seen more deer in the last 2 weeks that I've seen all winter. Or they should extend the doe season all of December. Also make bow season a doe season for a couple weeks (does only for two or three weeks of the bow season)
- 16481 Can't even see a deer on my 80 acres used to see 25 to 30 which I agreed was to many now I can't see any why does Adams county have forest zone maybe northern Marquette should be added to the forest zone which is almost the same as zone 5 wolf zone and we have plenty of wolves to go around
- 16482 While I understand the need to control herd size, I do not want to go back to earn a buck or buck only. I also do not think that 3 extra tags is needed. Two should suffice. For both gun and bow hunters. If you are trying to grow the herd why give out more tags? Seems backwards to me.
- 16483 I've lived in rural Marquette County for many years. Each year I see fewer and fewer deer. I believe they have been overhunted, which is why the quota is not reached. We do not need a "holiday hunt", we need time to let nature build up the deer population to a more natural level.
- 16484 In my opinion you need to keep deer numbers up if you want to sell licenses. I'm 68 yrs old and have hunted 56 years, I've hunted in the lean years and when you're a kid or even an adult it's not much fun hunting if you don't see deer or harvest one on a fairly regular basis.
- 16485 Reduce the amount of tags and let's not make the mistake of having the holiday hunt again the northern part of the county has at least two wolf packs that are effecting the deer population Hopefully the committee takes the public comments into consideration before they vote
- 16486 I'd like to see a limit to crossbow seasons for those not old or injured. This not archery equipment!! Limit there use to after November 15th for those not injured or old. By old I mean over the age of 65. Any late gun season should always be antlerless only.



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- 16487 A good majority of Marquette county is private and QDM with the exception of the northern area. Most of the public hunting grounds are in the northern part of this area. The deer count does not accurately represent the herd size in the northern part of this zone.
- 16488 I would like to see an earn a buck type format. Too many private landowners are not managing the deer herd, but rather only concerned with shooting a buck. I would also like to see a minimum size for bucks along with better control of antlerless deer.
- 16489 I am against the Holiday Hunt. Snowmobile season is short enough, and shutting down the trails for Holiday Hunt is making the season that much shorter. My opinion, there is more than enough time during regular deer season to accommodate hunters.
- 16490 Less tags my group of 4 hunts on 200 acres 20 acres of corn and sow beans a creek 80 acres was cut 5 years ago but still no deer food water cover = no deer oh yeah let's have a holiday hunt and extend the bow season too are you kidding me!!!!!!
- 16491 Less antlersless tags and no holiday hunt or no antlerless hunts and there's too much predators and a lot of wolves are starting to show up a lot on cameras also been hearing people hunting without license for deer since this new system started
- 16492 A pack of resident wolves had moved in right around westfield, and it has crushed the deer population. With so many tags given out there will be very few deer for the foreseeable future. NEED to reduce tags and reduce wolf population!!!!
- 16493 My main concern is that I oppose an additional holiday hunt as it adversely affects the already short snowmobile season which brings recreation and business to local establishments. Please consider how this hunt affects snowmobilers.
- 16494 Please no holiday hunt and don't issue so many tags success rates already stink which just increases the amount of tags you think need to be issued only saw 4 deer all 9 days of gun season on 80 acres with 10 acres of corn and a pond
- 16495 I think hunters should be allowed to buy a permit to keep a deer stand on public land for a designated time like two weeks a year. it would increase use of public land. Hauling a stand out of public land each day is not practical.
- 16496 There is no reason to issue 3 tags and have a holiday hunt there are enough issues with trespassers during the regular season when people aren't seeing deer it increases the trespassing and road hunting reduce the number of tags
- 16497 Clamp down on the poachers.... There is evidence of poaching and there are NO deer. Between the coyotes and possible wolves and observed Mountain lions the deer don't stand a chance when you add in the local poachers.
- 16498 Larry Gohlke pushes for these high doe tags. I think it's very selfish for hunters to think we are the only group using the landscape at this time. The holiday hunt really screws over the people with snowmobiles
- 16499 Reduce amount of tags three is crazy and reduce quota hunter success rate is low which just keeps increasing tag amounts number of tags issued does not equal a higher deer harvest we don't need a holiday hunt
- 16500 Increase the deer population I don't want to protect my private land through a holiday hunt and extended bow season hunters think all the deer are on the neighbors land and turn into trespassers and poachers
- 16501 Make northwest marquette county a forest land unit from I 39 to highway A wolves are impacting this deer herd are group of 6 members oppose the holiday hunt and the amount of tags increase deer population
- 16502 Ag tags to be used during regular season. With land owners allowing hunters access to property and hunters not being charged to hunt, and not just 20 acre field with no woods around it.



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- 16503 Just like last year, the quality of the hunt is falling with lack of deer in the county, hard to keep kids interested in the sport when there aren't enough deer around.
- 16504 Deer population is over estimated reduce the tags and dont have the holiday hunt the north part of the county has a very small. Deer population compared to years past
- 16505 only seeing one deer during nine day gun season doesn't qualify for a decrease in deer numbers for this unit not all area of county have excessive number of deer
- 16506 Will the cdac committee listen to the public or will certain ones continue with only what they want and not what the public wants Reduce Tags no holiday hunt
- 16507 Lots of does, few bucks. No holiday hunt! People want to be able to do other winter activities that we buy passes and registration for. Besides deer hunting!
- 16508 Please do not do away with the Archery & Crossbow season running at the same time. I've seen more hunters wanting to & starting archery because of crossbows.
- 16509 Don't have any deer now we sure don't need a holiday hunt and extended bow hunt so we can shoot bucks that have lost their antlers increase the population
- 16510 Reduce the number and the amount of tags predators are beco ing an issue that is being overlooked by the wildlife manager we do not need a holiday hunt
- 16511 Giving out to many tags and we don't need a holiday hunt no one hunts they just drive around and shoot deer from the road on someone else's land
- 16512 This was the worst year of gun hunting in my 20 yrs. Didnt see much for deer at all. Need to let the population go up. Need to grow the Bucks!
- 16513 No holiday hunt and way to many tags the amount of tags does not equal a higher deer harvest Hunters can not shoot deer that don't exist
- 16514 I'M INTERESTED IN THE FUTURE OF CROSSBOW USE,AS I AM AN OLDER HUNTER WHOSE CROSSBOW KEEPS ME ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ARCHERY HUNTING.
- 16515 Bring back tags and in person resistration to many people not following rules from what I hear also go back to old crossbow rules
- 16516 Too many seasons already to shoot deer. Stop already! No Holiday hunt and NO extended bow season into January!!
- 16517 Did not see hardly any deer in the areas of Marquette county northwest of Westfield - Springfield Township
- 16518 1 Anterlesstag would be enough deer are getting chased long enough lets no do the holiday hunt
- 16519 To many tags wolves are an issue that is not being considered and don't have the holiday hunt
- 16520 Please watch the coyote population As well as making sure there are no wolves And no bears
- 16521 End the nine day season and allow us to hunt any time we wish in the fall. Spread it out.
- 16522 To many Bucks being killed with cross bows something needs to be done about crossbows
- 16523 baiting should be allowed in Marquette county just like other local counties
- 16524 To many wolves consider reducing tags until a wolf season is in effect again
- 16525 taking all the does wont make hunting any fun when you don't see any deer
- 16526 No deer to many tags don't shoot an anterless deer for 5 years
- 16527 Crossbow season must be limited for general population,



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16528 More deer less tags no holiday or extended bow season

16529 I am opposed to the holiday hunt

16530 The herd numbers are very low

16531 Oppose the holiday hunt

16532 No holiday hunt!

16533 N/A

18050



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Milwaukee, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

4 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

- I live in this unit: 4
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 0
I hunt in this unit: 2
General interest in this unit: 1

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

- Gun: 0
Bow: 1
Crossbow: 1
Muzzleloader: 0

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

- Minimum: 2
Average: 2.5
Maximum: 3

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

- Exclusively Private Land: 2
Mostly Private Land: 0
Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 0
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

- Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 0
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
Somewhat crowded: 0
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

- Many Fewer: 1
Fewer: 1
Same: 1
More: 0
Many More: 1
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	0	0	2	1	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	0	0	2	1	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	1	0	2	0	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	1	0	2	0	0	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	1	0	2	0	0	0

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	0	2	1	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	1	2	0	0

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	1	2	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	3	0	0
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	1	2	0
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.00
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.33
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	1.67
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.67
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	2.67
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.67
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.67
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.00
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	1.67
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.00
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	1.67



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Milwaukee, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16534 I strongly suggest there is no holiday antler-less only hunt in Milwaukee County. The vast majority of animals harvested in this DMU are by archery due to the discharge restriction and limitations within the various cities and county. It is impractical to restrict harvest to antler-less only for any duration of the season structure as the harvest efficiency for the vast majority of the hunters participating does not change during a 'holiday' style hunt (traditionally a gun hunt in other DMUs). One observation I made in the NW corner of the DMU from 2017, we observed roughly 12 mature does and bucks regularly (3 of which were harvested). However, through 2017 where we hunt and live, we had only 1 young of the year deer reach maturity (really only one fawn made it past having spots, all of the others were presumed deceased). In past years we had observed upwards of 7-10 fawns annually reach maturity. Based on this observation, it is hard to support an additional reduction in the herd in our specific location for this season.

16535 Having a doe only holiday hunt in a bow hunting only county is ridiculous. Get rid of the holiday hunt and just let the people bowhunt and shoot either a buck or doe during this time.

18051



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Monroe, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

49 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 27
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 5
I hunt in this unit: 45
General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 43
Bow: 34
Crossbow: 12
Muzzleloader: 20

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 23.22
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 30
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 10
Fewer: 17
Same: 16
More: 4
Many More: 1
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	2	11	20	15	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	5	23	13	7	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	4	20	10	11	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	9	23	17	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	14	33	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	22	23	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	11	34	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.58
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.73
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.12
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.67
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.12
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.31
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.08
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.33
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.38
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.83
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.44



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Monroe, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16536 Overall I have hunting Kansas, Iowa , Minnesota and Illinois for the past twenty years both private and public land. The main reason I hunt these states and will continue to hunt these states is that is overwhelming better. All of the states I have listed put the whitetail deer on the top of their priority list. Not only are these states going above and beyond to promote good hunts for their residents but non-residents as well. It is an absolute shame the Wisconsin doesn't adopt some of their neighboring states views with the seasons dates and mainly the weapons uses to harvest deer(rifles, crossbows/ cross guns). To say that Wisconsin has the most pope and young bucks ever recorded is a joke as well, we also send over a million hunters into the woods on the same day , of course we are going to slaughter them. If Wisconsin would at least look at a few of the neighboring States and change a few things, mainly weapons of choice I really believe Wisconsin could be one of the great deer hunting states again. If their is no change people will simply just stop hunting here, it's happening right now. I'm sure this survey won't change a dam thing. If all out fails lets bring back Dr. James Kroll , Aka Dr. DEER because the state got a lot out of that!!!!

16537 The deer heard is healthy in this county which is a good thing. I wouldn't allow anymore "deer farms" in the state. Farms makes it to easy to spread disease. I wish I could see more deer while hunting, it's pretty much if you see one then shoot. I haven't shot a doe in quite some time. Shot a button buck a couple years ago and it made me sick that I did. It gets real boring when you don't see movement, so don't shoot the does. I didn't shoot a deer for like 3 or 4 years in a row because I do like to watch them when I see them. Glad to see you're making changes with tags etc. Ohio has made these changes a couple years ago, so glad you are adapting. I would now like to see you change the law about having not to buy a any license if you're a land owner (any acreage and family members). We pay taxes to hunt our land, so this should be a privilege being an owner. Just like in Ohio, look at their regulations. It's been that way for as long as I can remember. Delist the wolves and start the hunting season back up on them.

16538 Please drive to 11126 fedora Road Sparta in the evening and check deer population yourself. We have been averaging 150+ on 80 Ac., when snow is off crop fields. The maintain policy is based on what? Clear trend of over last several years of growing population in this area. My neighbor questions renting our crop land because of 20% loss to deer. Yes 200 bu. corn in the middle of field becomes less than 100 on edges for a 150 average. Note, the field edges are clear of trees for 33 feet and it is not shaded, the corn is strong but no corn on cobs. My fault we haven't shot a doe in eight years, since some of the neighbors hated me for using ag. tags then. Now more deer than then. Is everybody happy? We have to harvest doe this year. will buy tags, allow others to hunt doe. Please have doe only "Holiday Hunt" so I can invite other hunters to help. Thanks

16539 Wisconsin needs to focus on the QUALITY of deer in the deer heard. Not a single questionnaire had anything to do with quality of the deer. This is not simply a numbers game. If you are wondering why the out of state numbers are dropping drastically, it's because the quality of deer has gone down. The numbers are dropping but we are losing quality because hunters don't need a selective process! We either need to make Wisconsin a 1 buck state or remove rifles (OR BOTH!!). Once we increase the quality, we can increase the non-resident prices and make Wisconsin relatable again. Buffalo county is the worst I've ever seen it. Kansas has done a PHENOMINAL job with their deer heard simply by switching to a 1 buck state and increasing the non-resident prices. The simplicity of it is remarkable and yet here we sit.. I am available at 507-208-5236



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16540 I am a DMAP member in Monroe County and serve on the CDAC in Rock County. In my experience, the Holiday hunt will create an island of opportunity. These additional tags will sell late. To maintain the heard, the DNR allows a 20% deviation from your starting population estimate. If you are serious about keeping your heard numbers at a "maintain" level, I recommend offering more bonus tags for the upcoming season. You nearly sold out of them last year and by creating the island of opportunity, which is the Holiday Hunt, you need to make sure their are still tags available well into December. With CWD at Monroe County's door step, population levels should be kept as low as they can, within the Maintain range, until more info can be discovered. Thank you for serving on your local CDAC! Suggest 1600 private and 700 public
- 16541 I believe white tail hunting in all of Wisconsin, not just Monroe County is slowly being ruined by the DNR. There are hardly any deer, and youth interest is really taking a hit. It is tough for kids to go out and sit there all day and not see any deer. Also taking the registration stations away is really taking away from the accurate deer numbers, not to mention the tradition of going into town and seeing all the nice deer that have been shot. That is how to get the youth involved. Also the money that is being taken away from the businesses that register the deer is huge. I realize it is more of a cost to have them registered but I believe it is an investment in the future of deer hunting. It is all about camaraderie and the youth seeing the fruits of the hunt to get them excited about hunting.
- 16542 A comment for you I am 53 years old I hunt as much as possible in Wisconsin and other states I love hunting as much today as when I was 12(when I had very limited success) the state is making a HUGE mistake allowing children to hunt at 10 they are unsafe they have no idea the importance (or what they actually have done) of harvesting a wild animal and what it means, Dads take them out on earlier special hunts shoot nice bucks then what's next?? earlier hunting and easier hunting is not the answer using a crossbow is a joke only eliminates the true skill and joy of archery hunting you are not gaining interest you are losing it I am disgusted, if you don't fix this you can survey all day long in regards' to zone management you will lose hunters year by year until its non relevant.
- 16543 If the deer population in Monroe County is growing, now would be a great time to implement Antler Point Restrictions (APR). Hunters should have plenty of opportunities to fill their freezers with a doe. Encouraging hunters to harvest a doe vs a younger buck would help keep the population in check. There are several other benefits to APRs, they have proven successful in many states. They have increased buck survival and the buck age structure. APRs have maintained strong support from hunters improving hunter satisfaction rates. Pennsylvania and Michigan hunters are experiencing the same levels of success on harvesting bucks as they did prior to the implementation of APRs. Now would be a great time for Monroe County to take the lead on APRs.
- 16544 I think that CWD has been around a long time. I thought that the DNR brought wolves, and mountain lions into the state to keep the deer population down. These animals I thought kill off the sick animals and all people want to do is kill off the deer herd because of CWD. I believe the CWD and killing off the herd is all over big money, politicians and insurance companies. You can believe and say what you want but the public will never know the truth. CWD I do not think is the problem it is big money. I think nature will take care of itself when it comes to CWD. I have been deer hunting for a lot of years I have seen only one sick deer in my life and that was gang green because of an arrow. Killing off the deer because of CWD is garbage.
- 16545 This unit adjoins a highly hunted, highly predated Forest Unit and suffers the effects. The Farmland Unit needs to reduce deer harvest to compensate for the problems in the Forest Unit. There is too much doe harvest going on...lets try not to relive the problems when we had EAB and shot too many doe. Herds still not recovered. Please go to an INCREASE herd position.
- 16546 As an avid archery hunter, I would like to see the 2 buck tags be changed. Offer 1 archery buck and 1 archery/gun tag. The second would offer a hunter the opportunity to kill their second buck at the time they choose. I personally have less deer sightings during gun season, I'd rather have the option to harvest a buck during the archery season.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16547 I feel public land is over hunted. Did very little hunting on public land in 2017 because of that fact. Lucky to see a deer in the monroe county forest. I hunt more days in one season than the average hunter. I understand CWD is a factor in the population. One tag for public land either sex would be enough. Gun or bow.
- 16548 Deer densities are very high (heavy browse of plants/trees not typically desired by deer) in Wellington. Especially antlerless. Many of us here are working to make that better, but we should be creating season structures and quotas that encourage more harvest of antlerless.
- 16549 I believe the number of deer in this area has declined. Having good neighbors who also hunt I am well aware of the deer herd in my area. I know the number of deer seen and taken has declined. The numbers the DNR are stating for the herd size of deer in my area is way off.
- 16550 Crossbow's should be put back to disabled or age limits. If not, it should be put together with the gun and muzzleloader seasons as the success rate is much higher with a crossbow than vertical bow. Would also support antler restrictions on buck.
- 16551 CWD is a joke you need to quit worrying about it and go back to the old rules!!
- 16552 I would recommend one Buck per person for either bow or gun seasons.
- 16553 Wolf activity observed during the past five hunting seasons.
- 16554 T Too many seasons and permits
- 16555 Should be earn a buck
- 18052



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Monroe, Central Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

20 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 9
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 19
General interest in this unit: 3

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 17
Bow: 11
Crossbow: 5
Muzzleloader: 6

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 23.17
Maximum: 54

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 8
Mostly Private Land: 4
Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 2
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 1
Fewer: 7
Same: 5
More: 5
Many More: 2
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	4	4	7	2	3	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	5	6	1	3	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	1	9	1	4	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	11	7	2

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.25
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.90
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.30
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.85
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.30
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.00
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.40
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.70
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.75
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.65
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.20



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Monroe, Central Forest

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16556 What really needs to change is our gun seasons. Stacking the 9 day season and muzzle loader season is hard the wildlife, not only the ones being hunted but all the other animals chased around in the process. There needs to be a chance for wildlife to return to normal patterns in feeding and bedding so they are not so skittish and locked down to beds. This is also hard on a hunter to not only hunt but in WI trespassing is a huge problem. For someone that doesn't live on the land he hunts, it is common for neighbors to "slip" in when they know I'm not there. Doesn't sound like an issue for people on public land but for a State that expects my property tax dollars every year it is. Also raise the price for out of state licenses and make them a lottery. Follow the lead of IA and IL, the best hunting location in the midwest...WI used to be part of the list but is over hunted by any and all who want to go. I have hunted in many states, and have paid a lot of money to do so. I would consider myself more than the avid hunter. Raising antlerless permit totals means nothing to me as I am a land manager and will shoot as many deer as I feel necessary, many years purchasing more tags than I ever use. Just cause I bought a license doesn't mean I need to use it if the herd will suffer, I have done this also which helped me gain knowledge and experience.

16557 In Monroe County, the boundary for the Central Forest Area should not be defined by the stretch of Interstate 90/94 that runs through the NE corner of Monroe County. There is no reason why the boundary should not follow the county line, making all of Monroe County part of the Central Forest Area. Having spoken to many neighbors, land-owners and other residents of the area, we all agree that the deer population in the NE corner of Monroe County is overwhelmingly female. Limiting the amount of antlerless permits for that tiny corner of Monroe County is not "helping" the herd in any real, meaningful way. All of Monroe County should be included in the Central Farmland area. If you want to include Meadow Valley Wildlife Area in the Central Forest area, fine. But the residents who hunt on private land outside of MVWA should not have to suffer severely limited antlerless permits because I-90/94 makes an easy boundary. I want the DNR to re-draw the boundary for the Central Forest/Central Farmland to follow the boundary of Monroe County and not Interstate 90/94. And all of Monroe County to be included in the Central Farmland area. Thank you.

16558 I have fruit trees on my property and the deer are tough on them. I also rent out some farmland on this property and the farmer that rents it came to me this spring and said he was going to lower my per acre rent because his yields were down because of the deer damage. I live on this property and am seeing more deer than I was 5 or 6 years ago.

16559 Seems to be a loss of fawn numbers from early summer to early fall. predator numbers are increasing. Last year we saw bears, bobcats, wolves and coyotes. In the 1980s all we saw were coyotes. Private land appears to be holding good numbers of deer, but public land is still lacking.

16560 Rezoning of places where we can take antlerless deer. Need more places to take them down.

16561 We need more antlerless deer tags we couldn't even hunt this year all we ever see is does

16562 How is it you issued 50 antlerless tags and 97 were filled???

16563 This number of antlerless tags is ridiculously low.

16564 I would like to see crossguns restricted.

18053



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Oconto, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

107 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 48
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 13
I hunt in this unit: 98
General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 94
Bow: 57
Crossbow: 45
Muzzleloader: 41

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.83
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 68
Mostly Private Land: 20
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 13
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 7
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 15
Fewer: 21
Same: 46
More: 17
Many More: 6
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	2	9	40	29	23	4



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	7	49	29	15	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	7	38	26	21	13
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	3	40	60	4
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	47	48	12
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	67	34	6
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	15	84	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.50
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.00
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.42
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.61
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.05
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.90
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.45
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.64
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.52
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.75
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.62



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Oconto, Central Farmland

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16565 The problem with making the gun season in this unit antlerless only (in my opinion) is that it creates poor motivation for hunters to go out and hunt, especially if conditions are marginal. Many hunters naturally want to harvest a large buck, so when you have to pass up deer with antlers opening weekend . . . that is a good way to make hunters hunt some other unit if they can. Many hunters will harvest a doe or two after opening weekend if they do not get a buck that first weekend. Also, I think having numerous antlerless permits and bonus tags does not motivate hunters to harvest more deer. Hunting, field dressing, dragging, loading, and processing more than one or two deer in a season is not really practical for most modern people (especially now that most hunters are 50 plus now). If you put a bounty on antlerless deer, say \$50, then maybe more does will get harvested. More hunters are needed not more tags per white baby boomer hunters. Lower the price of licenses for youth (under 21), women, minorities, and non-residents in order to attract more hunters. Provide more hunting education classes in urban areas. Have better land access programs to allow more landowners to get a property tax break who allow deer hunting on their land with out forcing them to cut their timber (MFL). Promote the benefits of eating lean free range venison. Make it easier to donate field dressed deer to be processed for distribution at food shelves. Provide free testing for CWD. Maybe ban lead ammo and/or help make copper ammo more available and affordable for common rifles calibers like 30-30 and 30-06. Close down all deer and elk farms in the state! Ban all deer feeding and baiting . . . and enforce it. Don't promote killing wolves (hunting season). Wolves will kill the deer with CWD that hunters won't. Wolves are the best hunters and managers of deer (and the forest by protecting regenerating pines, oaks, cedars, hemlocks, etc.) in the world . . . let them do their jobs. Non-native people are the ones that got the deer herd out of balance by screwing up the landscape and the environment, eliminating large predators, and then allowing CWD into the state . . . wolves are not hurting the deer herd people are! Help promote better environmental education and citizenship in public schools. Manage natural resources with the best science not politics.

16566 Living in this area for 55 plus years, knowing the deer numbers have increased dramatically, there NEEDS to be something done to reduce the deer population. And if it can't be done voluntarily, it needs to be done through a mandatory way. There are just so many antlerless deer one land owner can harvest, before the deer stay on neighboring properties where antlerless harvesting isn't allowed. We try and harvest as many antlerless we can utilize ourselves, or give away. But in our area, it's just not enough. Personally, I think you can offer as many free antlerless tags as possible, but if those that choose not to harvest antlerless, still won't harvest them. It would be helpful for us that want to harvest doe deer, but only the ones that truly care about population goals, and habitat regeneration are going to kill them. We have virtually no regeneration in our area, do to the deer numbers. And with record keeping on harvested deer in our area since 1992, buck weights have decreased, as well as antler quality (score). 1/ 1/2 year old antlers aren't what they used to be do to the lack of quality forage, and the overall increase in deer numbers. Age of harvested does have increased, so that tells me the doe in our area, have become the sacred cow so to speak. When I hear a neighboring land owner see 40+ antlerless animals, and they think there's no such thing as to many deer, it's going to be hard to get them to reduce numbers voluntarily through free tags. It's nothing to see 25 or many more deer in a field during the evenings, from the highway. And we all know there's many more that don't show themselves. Somehow/someway, the deer numbers need to be reduced, in our area. I can not comment on other areas of 63b, only my personal area... We live on 180 acres, with a big part of that being crop land, and it's nothing to have the outside rows of a corn field near the woods with no corn. Bring back the earn a buck!!!



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16567 the DRN and DATCP management of CWD is a Fail. Game Farms should be fined and their heard euthanized if CWD is found. Additional double fencing should be required. These for profit enterprises have done permanent damage to Wisconsin's deer heard. This was preventable. Baiting bans are not effective (plenty of baiting going on anyway). small food plots concentrate deer as well i have observed 15 deer on a 1/4 acre food plot. If you want to reduce the deer heard in Oconto farmland zone reinstate bating with a requirement that the bait be broad cast, like a food plot. food plots concentrate deer and contribute to the spread of diseases. the CWD "genie" is out of the bottle and will spread across the state as it currently is in a relatively rapid manor regardless of baiting(i am not a fan of baiting, but it is not rational to allow small food plots all over the woods and not broad cast baiting) quicker and more convenient testing for CWD would be nice. It would also be nice if we knew what exactly what a "prion" was and how it behaves and how it is transferred. until there is certainty about that, no restrictive measure will be effective. (except restricting game farms) I have a degree in wildlife management from UWSP. thank you!
- 16568 I would like to see a statewide QDM program instead of what the wi dnr is currently doing. Each hunter gets one buck and one doe tag for archery and gun with a SIZE LIMIT on bucks - 8pts or bigger. And each hunter is allowed one extra doe tag to purchase. OR, Only one doe and buck tag per hunter for the entire deer season, archery through gun. No bonus tags. OR, bring back the "hunters choice" tag - can only shoot one doe OR buck during archery and one doe OR buck during gun season. Only one bonus doe tag for purchase for entire season. My opinion is that the deer herd is way to small. If this state would do one of 3 options for 2-3 years wi hunting will be back to where it should be. Earn-a-buck that our DNR forced on us ruined the deer populations in this state along with some predator influence. We lose tens of thousands of hunters each year because nobody wants to go hunting and see nothing. Time for some REAL change. Time to listen to the hunters of this state. We know more than you. P.S. - you guys (WI DNR) should of listened to the deer man that Governor Walker brought hear from Texas a few years ago on how to manage deer. If I were you, I'd bring him back.
- 16569 For Oconto county's central farmland unit there were over 1,000 bonus antlerless tags that went unsold in 2017. Increasing the number of tags does nothing. CWD was detected there in 2016 and because of DATCP interference, nothing tangible was done. Deer are still able to have nose to nose contact through the single fence. And deer from the inside have an easier barrier to escape. Farmers with crop damage tags should be required to share those tags with the public, and they should only be good for antlerless deer. Re-instate mandatory deer registration. There should be no tree damage permits issued in farmland zones, and in forested zones, they should be counted as part of the quota, as well as, the youth tags. Private landowners should not receive preference over public lands, if the goal is to increase the herd, it should be pro-rated based on acreage percents. Landowners can plant food plots to concentrate deer on their property, denying public opportunity, as it is.
- 16570 Dont issue any antlerless tags for any public land in this central farmland unit. The deer population in the northern portion of the central farmland unit is over harvested. We need to change the boundary for this area, and or stop issuing free antlerless tags for public land. Also do not issue any bonus tags for public land either, until the deer population gets higher. Many of the answers i gave in this form are based on these concerns. As far as the rest of the unit you probably do need to issue more tags. Some of the proposals would effect this northern portion and would be againts those. Like the dec. hunt and or any extentions of the seasons in this area. Again all this county land is over harvested.... As stated I have hunted in this area for 55 years and have a good baseline for this area. I have brought this up many times wrote letters gone to many meetings with out any one listening. Please look at this area more closely. Thank You...



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- 16571 I am a public land hunter. The largest deer populations are on private land. These land owners won't allow access they believe they own the deer and control the herd their way. They are allowed to food plot to keep the deer from dispersing. Why is food plotting legal but laying down corn on public land illegal. Food plotting is baiting and should be illegal in non baiting counties. If a land owner files for crop damage they should not be reimbursed if they can't prove they let hunters on their land during the season to control the deer causing the damage. But why would they when they keep getting paid. I would suggest having an antlerless season following the gun season. Then a week or so of non hunting to give the deer time to settle down. I would love to have a non pressured muzzle loader hunt. Many states have a successful late season muzzle season hunt. Yes bow hunting until the end of January would be great. Thanks
- 16572 I live in a unit that's been an antlerless zone since around 1997 there should be a limit on how many years zones are antlerless. For those of us that are land owners and see NO DEER during the 9 day deer season should have a say in the matter. Before this was an antlerless zone we used to see a lot of deer. We have neighbors with friends that drive their woods out everyday and shoot everything that comes out, HOW FAIR IS THAT TO US OTHER LAND OWNERS, the deer population never gets a chance to recover. It's getting to the point it's not worth buying a license anymore, and there are other neighbors that feel the same way. I am truly convinced this is why license sales are down. Issuing more and more doe tags is destroying our deer populations.
- 16573 I've hunting in Clark County Missouri the past 3 seasons both on county and private land. Clark county introduced an antler restriction (4pt min on 1 side) for harvesting bucks. As a result of implementing this restriction I was very impressed with the quality of bucks we've seen on camera and from the stand. Has an antler restriction ever been put on the table of discussion for Wisconsin? I was also impressed with how the state of Missouri manages their public land, specifically Frost Island. On this specific parcel the DNR(?) planted different types of crops, some of them were harvested and some were left standing for the animals. This parcel was muzzleloader only which was also a very good concept as well.
- 16574 I fully support the CDAC's recommendations. After 2 years of heavy deer browse, deer completely killed the aspen sprouts on a series of aspen regeneration harvest areas on my land. This year I will need to put up deer exclusion fence and plant trees inside. A clear indication deer numbers are too high. If you can't get fast growing aspen past the reach of deer, what trees can you? Last season, 2017, I used all the tools the CDAC provided. Used all my antlerless tags. Hunted all the seasons. Really enjoyed the Holiday hunt even though it was cold. Harvested additional deer and probably saw more deer during HH season than any other.
- 16576 I would like to see a point restriction on bucks. I also would like to see more antlerless hunting opportunities. Maybe an early doe hunt before sept opener. So you could get them on their summer pattern to beat fields. I would like to be able to call in road kill deer to get them tested for CWD or be able to bring their heads in without getting in trouble. I see lots of road kill deer and wish they were tested so we can stay ahead of the CWD. Doe to buck ratio is way off in this unit increase doe harvest and decrease buck harvest will create a more enjoyable hunting experience I had all 2.5 year olds have a bunch of does all to themselves.
- 16575 I HUNT ALL AVAILABLE SEASONS AND FOUND THE POPULATIONS IN SOME AREAS TO BE UP AND SOME WERE DOWN. I SAW AN INCREASING NUMBER OF LARGE WOLF TRACKS AND SAW A NUMBER OF WOLVES. I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF MYSELF AND MY PETS BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED NUMBERS. WHEN WILL THERE BE AN OPEN SEASON ON WOLVES, BECAUSE IN ONE OF THE AREAS I HUNT THE DEER POPULATIONS ARE ALMOST GONE, WHERE I USED TO SEE 10 TO 15 DEER A SIT, I NOW SEE THAT IN A SEASON? I ENJOY SEEING DEER EVEN I DON'T HARVEST ONE, AND THAT REALLY CONCERNS ME. MY FAMILY DEPENDS ON THE MEAT THAT I HARVEST AND IT'S BECOME MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT TO SEE DEER IN SOME OF THOSE AREAS.



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- 16577 I'm concerned about the number of antlerless tags being proposed; that we are moving too quickly to implement increased antlerless harvest in the area again, especially given the long & cold winter. I'd ask that the board consider maintaining or reducing antlerless hunting for the coming year. As a hunter, I would be much more supportive of increased antlerless hunting in this unit, and across the state, if there was a minimum-size harvest (like 6-points, for example) for bucks that was also implemented. Most bucks observed or harvested on public lands are spikes or forks - and we wonder why interest in hunting is on the decline?
- 16578 I would like to see more emphasis on teaching hunters that killing antlerless deer is needed badly in Oconto county. The land I hunt on and much other land is full of deer, both buck and doe, and with the last three winters being rather mild that population is going to be higher this year. I know many hunters whose parties refuse to shoot does even though the extra antlerless tags are given out. The buck only hunters must learn that big bucks will not be present because the increase in does means less resources for the bucks to grow bigger. I will harvest as many deer as I and my party am allowed this year and in the future.
- 16579 I wish the State of Wisconsin would start taking the CWD threat seriously. It seems that the WDNR and the political powers to be in the state refuse to admit there is a problem and a threat. I have two small children (<4 years old) and I am fearful that they will not have the same opportunity that I had when I was younger to enjoy the sport of deer hunting. We have been fortunate in Oconto County and all of Northeast Wisconsin that CWD in the wild population has not been identified and located. The time is coming that it will be in all of Wisconsin and it will be a serious threat to the sport and human health.
- 16580 I own/hunt private land bordering public land in this unit, if you travel a half mile north onto public land there are very few deer there from over hunting/night poaching/whatever. Maybe the area north of Oconto County M to State Hwy 64 and between Menominee County eastward to County Road B in Oconto County should be included in the Northern Forest area of Oconto County as once proposed years back. As this land is mainly forested County/State owned land with few farmland acres. Plus we have two active wolf packs in that area, one in Breed and the other the Shay Lk pack. Food for thought.
- 16581 I would strongly consider going back to an earn a buck season, its not uncommon to see 20 does in the fields at dusk. The doe to buck ratio needs to be dramatically decreased. There is no reason that we should be harvesting more bucks per year than antlerless deer. If I had 6 doe tags Id take 6 does every year if possible. It blows my mind that people are willing to take a 100 lbs spike and pass up a 120lbs doe. If it was conceivable to make the central farmland zone a antler point restriction test zone Id be all for it.
- 16582 It's difficult to speak for the entire unit. I only know what I see in my neighborhood and the area that surrounds it and what stands out is that in this neighborhood deer numbers have dropped significantly however I can travel 5-10 miles north and observe deer population levels that are ridiculously high on private land I might add. just 2 miles south (on public land) deer numbers have picked up a little which is good to see again. I wish we could find a way to manage smaller areas separately within a zone
- 16583 There should have been a question about deer baiting and cwd. I am not concerned about cwd as long as the dnr allows game farms that are repeat offenders to remain in operation and keep a herd of diseased deer at their disposal to sell to clients and influence our hunting laws while lining their pockets. Close those facilities, show the public you take this disease serious. Have the holiday hunt after bow season closes, last year before the end of bow season the bucks were shedding there antlers.
- 16584 We just want to see more deer and have an opportunity to harvest a deer. Seeing 3 or 4 deer a year and staring at trees all season is no longer enjoyable. Something also needs to be done about these deer farms that now seem to controlling how we can hunt deer in our state. We don't need them here..... Deer hunting in Wisconsin seems to have become all money and after hunting here my entire life i'm strongly considering spending my money elsewhere and there will be nobody hunting on my property.



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- 16585 Hi, I would like to add that I am not in favor of shortening the crossbow season. I have used a crossbow instead of a compound bow the last several years and find it an effective method to harvest deer. A hunter can make consistent, ethical shots with a crossbow with far less practice time than a compound bow. This makes it a great option for me as I have limited time for practice but can still enjoy September and October hunts and feel confident in my ability to make a clean kill.
- 16586 We see quite a few deer bow hunting, so I would like to see the bow and/or crossbow seasons together left alone. In other words do not shorten the cross bow season or set a different season for crossbows - leave as is. For gun season, we see deer on opening weekend. After that they "disappear" and go into hiding and there is virtually no chance to shoot a deer after opening weekend, so increasing the number of doe tags is basically pointless. thanks.
- 16587 I would support an Earn-A-Buck 100%. There are way to many does in this area and they need to be dealt with. Seeing deer isn't that important to me. Last year I shot a doe that a 6 point buck was chasing. I'm all for a healthy herd and the fact there are 40:1 doe to buck ratio in my area is unhealthy as it can be. Ill keep doing my part and unleashing on does!
- 16588 We fewer deer this year. I think it was due to the abundant amount of wolves we keep seeing. There is no reason to offer more tags for does. The wolves are killing everything. You guys have to start push to get that wolf season back open. We are losing deer hunters. Because there are to many wolves in are area. It is a real problem!!!
- 16589 In my opinion something more needs to be done promptly in regards to deer farms and their continued spreading of CWD before it's too late and the entire deer hunting tradition falls apart. At this point it is rather obvious that these farms are the source and continued issue in regards to the CWD problem in this state and others. Thanks
- 16590 I would like to see any deer farms (in Wisconsin, not just Oconto county) that are CWD positive to be depopulated, to prevent any more spread of this invasive and dangerous disease. I live and hunt in Shawano County, and would hate to see the spread and suffering of even more deer with something so preventable.
- 16591 I really hope that they don't limit the crossbow season. We hunted all archery season with crossbows and had the opportunity two harvest two high quality bucks. We took one. We strongly support crossbows and would be very disappointed if they were restricted.
- 16592 I feel the No baiting in our area based on what happened at a "deer farm" is totally unfair. Those deer are contained and there is no proof that it/they contaminated any deer on the outside. Makes me want to quit hunting altogether... signed angry hunter
- 16593 I am not sure who is determining we have all these deer. I see less and less every season. Years ago, I saw 20+ deer on opening day, could pick a nice buck. This last season I saw three deer, 2 adult does and one fawn. Time to repopulate the herd.
- 16594 I honestly believe you people Believe there's a deer behind every tree and that is not the truth At all . I was out there a lot in 2017 hunting and I just didn't see the numbers like I normally would. Stop Giving out so many tags .
- 16595 Spring deer populations seem to be near an all time high. Instead of seeing 2-3 in a field near dusk you see 10-15. Clearly this winter has been kind to the dawn population. So it is necessary to decrease the population!
- 16596 I have seen less does in this unit year to year for the past 50 years.. I don't hardly see a doe during gun season. Use to see 25+ deer per season in the 1980's and now see less than 10 per season.
- 16597 I think one of the best things to do to decrease antlerless deer is earn a buck. That system works just fine if you let people roll over stickers one year. Lests people keep ahead of the game.



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- 16598 Do not limit the crossbow season in light of some recommendations being made to restrict crossbow usage so that "traditional" archers have priority during certain parts of the season.
- 16599 Think we should get rid of private/public specific tags as many hunters hunt both. Go to one buck tag per year for a set trial period and see if it helps improve the herd.
- 16600 Seeing many deer on my 117 acre farm. My small wood lots have no regeneration of white cedar or hemlock. Mature trees are present but no young growth of these species.
- 16601 All I see is does and no bucks wish there would be only one buck tag so people would shoot more does. To many does not enough bucks. The ratio I see is about 20 to 1
- 16602 If I read your chart correct, there was no positive CWD test in oconto county last year. I think baiting should be allowed on a limited amount basis
- 16603 Get ride of game farms. We should not be reimbursing them for their losses. Its part of their business. I also feel they are responsible for CWD.
- 16604 I purchase a patron license and the anterless quota is never set at the time of purchase. Can anything be done to move the quota up a few months?
- 16605 Great hunting opportunity in Oconto County. Fully support Holiday Hunt, Extended Crossbow/Bow Season and 3 tags per hunter.
- 16606 Outlaw baiting! There's no reason to have baiting when you're hunting in farm country. People, ever hear of CWD?!?!?!?!?
- 16607 Just worried once the wolves get here they will take care of our deer herd. Also bear population is growing very fast.
- 16608 From the look of the past years about the CWD in this county, you guys should lift the no baiting.
- 16609 It would be nice to see a number of deer while hunting to keep kids interested in the sport
- 16610 Would like to have antlered deer available to bow/crossbow hunters during the holiday hunt
- 16611 To many does not enough bucks. All bucks are small need age
- 16613 Have seen very few deer during 2016 and 2017 deer seasons.
- 16612 How about bringing back baiting to help out bowl hunters.
- 16614 One buck per year and doe tags given with each permit.
- 16615 Keep up the good work Oconto CDAC
- 16616 Earn a buck.
- 18054



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Oconto, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

67 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 17
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
I hunt in this unit: 64
General interest in this unit: 12

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 58
Bow: 35
Crossbow: 32
Muzzleloader: 21

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.56
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 9
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 13
Mostly Public Land: 13
Exclusively Public Land: 20
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 6
Not too crowded: 13
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 14
Somewhat crowded: 11
Very crowded: 8
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 10
Fewer: 13
Same: 29
More: 14
Many More: 1
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	2	8	20	17	20	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	2	17	18	25	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	7	13	18	26	0

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	25	38	4

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

Average Rating

Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.84
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.75
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.31
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.30
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.17
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.19
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.48
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.52
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.34



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Comments for Oconto, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 16617 My comments are regarding the distribution of antlerless tags on public vs private land. My first preference would be to eliminate any distinction at all since there is no biological basis to have this distinction and it pits one group of hunters vs another and that is not beneficial for anyone. Since there is this distinction however I feel that the past and current tilt toward private land is not justifiable. The deer range is 74% public and 26% private so if the 1075 tags are going to be divided correctly it should be 796 public and 279 private not the 325 public and 750 private proposed. The success rate for both land types over the past 2 years is virtually identical and more antlered deer are taken on public land than private so it is obvious that more hunters are using the more plentiful public land. The current division is clearly an attempt to privatize the natural resource that belongs to all the people of Wisconsin.
- 16618 Make this a no quota permit area for a few years. People want to see more deer , and to get young people interested in hunting they need to see more deer. Also why not offer seniors a discount on their licence or if they bought a licence say the last 20 years or 15 out of the last 20 give them a free licence to keep the experience out there to mentor the young hunters which is what we all need to keep our deer hunting in wis alive. Or offer a lifetime licence to our young people for a set fee reasonable of course. this would help with maybe getting more young people interested. I can see a grandpa buying a grandson or granddaughter a licence for a christmas gift .We need to think more outside the box when it comes to keeping our seniors hunting and getting our young people interested in hunting AND SEEING DEER when they are out there, to keep them hunting.Thank You...
- 16619 I my opinion crossbows should have there own season not the whole bow season Maybe a 10 day hunt Youth hunters should be given one anterless tag 1st year hunter only not until there 18 I hunted this area in oconto county for 39 years and had some good years until the year they gave out 11,000 anterless tags Never came back from that in my opinion. Would like to see more logging and ban baiting for ever !!!!! I still tell my son and his friends how we saw 20 deer on opening day and our group would shoot 4 to 6 bucks with 8 guys Now I have seen maybe 6 deer in 3 years of gun hunting 1 buck per 8 hunters if we're lucky and hunt more days now The young hunters are very frustrated with lack of deer but shooting a doe won't help that !!!
- 16620 We lost all the hunters because we lost all the deer. The deer have had years to rebound and they have not. Last year with snow on the ground before the gun season opened I could hardly find a track and this was one of the best places to hunt in Wisconsin. We used to have ten in are party. Now I go it a lone. My son has nothing to do with hunting because he sat all day and saw nothing. I'm getting old and when I'm gone there won't be many hunters left. When dnr let baiting begin, it all went down hill. Even though it's against the law to bait. They still do to put there cameras up, but now not many baiters left. Good luck with the future because somebody or other things have wiped out the deer and they haven't come back to make it fun!
- 16621 Concerning the crossbow discussion. Our group now wounds fewer deer that are not found due to bad compound shots. The crossbows are more accurate, resulting in fewer lost deer. This fact skews the kill ratio, but does not represent the complete picture of deer that are dying due to bow hunting in general. While crossbows have driven up the reported number of kills, the actual kill may not be that much higher. After 3 years of changing to crossbows, I would estimate a 70% recovery with compounds and so far, 100% recovery with crossbows. The idea that we can now shoot farther is bunk; We do would not shoot beyond about 30 yards from a practical standpoint; deer jump the sound of the bow!



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- 16622 I know for a fact that a large number of hunters that are looking for a doe permit register for a permit for private land, and in fact they only have a small lot in town. This happens because the public land permits go so fast. Everyone knows this so they go for the private land permits. There needs to be an acreage amount needed before a private land permit is issued. If this is violated by a permit requester they need a hearty fine implemented. The no baiting for northern Oconto is a joke. The private land owners are baiting, and we do not see this changing because there is no enforcement of the law, and there are too many variables in regards to feeding birds and small animals.
- 16623 Generally I am seeing more and more deer in the area. This has not transferred to the hunting experience where I saw very few deer in the National Forest Area that I hunt. Lack of access to some areas that used to be open in past years makes no sense in my view. While walking access is available it does very little for me since I am not able to walk long distances. Farmers in the area leave the crops up until after season so the deer have a food source and hiding area and have no need to move. Then we pay the farmer for damage. Seems a bit unfair.
- 16624 I have been hunting this land for many years, I even use to fly home from overseas while in the military to hunt this area. It has truly become a disappointment and a question if the 20 dollars for a tag is worth it. The quality of deer is pitiful and the odds of seeing a buck is slim to none. A large majority of the people I talk to that hunt the area all agree. The management of the herd is disgraceful and should make anyone question who is truly regulating it. If something doesn't change soon I don't see a point in the trip or the tag.
- 16625 All deer farms in the entire state should be double fenced, at the owners cost. The public should not pay the price of their infected animals nor should we be punished by having baiting taken away. Apple Creek Whitetails had numerous CWD deer. Surrounding counties now have a bait ban, but Apple Creek Whitetails have gravity feeders right next to the fence (seen from hwy. R), basically inviting outside deer to their deer.
- 16626 I am confused with this data you have provided above. The first goal stated is to grow the deer population for the next 3 years for this area. Which I totally agree with. What follows is a stated plan to increase the number of does being harvested in all areas and hunting methods. Not sure how increasing the number of doe tags issued that lead to the number of does being killed will grow the population?!
- 16627 Have not seen 1 buck in 5 years and not able to get bonus antlerless tag on line as always sold out. Limit hunters who apply for antlerless to get 1 tag and let on line requests be higher in opportunity to get a doe tag. I have seen only does except last year when I harvested the only buck I saw (a spike). As a CP license holder would like a doe permit given for Northern Forest Zone.
- 16628 I truly believe issuing any bonus antlerless tags in northern Oconto county would be a big mistake. I spend every possible free moment in the fall deer hunting. Trying to keep my two teenage boys interested is very hard with the lack of deer sightings. Please reconsider the amount of tags you plan on giving out. Thanks much.
- 16629 I would just like to recommend the no baiting law that is currently active. The CDW positive testing was on a deer farm and of all the deer that my family and my community has harvested, we have yet to find a positive test. I personally believe that baiting will really help with the population. Thanks for your time.
- 16630 I think that logging needs to be encouraged in the national forest there to open some areas up to provide more browse. Where I hunt near the fish hatchery there are lots of trees getting so old they are falling down. I realize woodpeckers need some old trees but probably not as many as are in this area.
- 16631 I've been hunting in this unit for 15 years, and I am lucky to see 2 or 3 deer per year. The numbers are not there, yet doe tags continue to be handed out every year. The population in the area has been down for years, and most people I talk to in the area would like to see it increased.
- 16632 The harvest data from this zone seems to indicate a stable population, the numbers have been similar over the last several years. Yet you are increasing the antlerless permits, I thought that the goal was to increase the population? your numbers and your actions are in conflict.



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- 16633 Any game farm that has CWD and has caused any baiting restrictions in this county should be shut down or required to have double fencing. Get rid of the late antlerless only hunt, 12/1 - 12/10, or if not, allow Bow Hunters to shoot a Buck with a valid tag during this period.
- 16634 Indian tribes are killing deer with rifles all year long in the national forest areas I hunt. I know it's not legal, and nobody does anything about it. The deer population would definitely be better if that wasn't happening.
- 16635 Is the winter severity index accounted for in your quotas? How can it be with snow and cold still occurring? This is the most critical time of year for deer especially in the forest. Please consider this at April meeting.
- 16636 Would like to see law changed to allow baiting again. CWD has not been found in Northern Oconto Forest region to my knowledge. We should not be restricted by baiting because it was found on a private deer farm.
- 16637 I fail to understand why there are increased antlerless tags proposed for the unit if it already has been determined that the goal should be to increase the deer population. That makes absolutely no sense to me.
- 16638 In my opinion, stop all antlerless permits for at least a couple more years. Rise bear permits and encourage more coyote hunting to reduce preators on fawns. Go back to unit 49A for better deer management.
- 16639 I am hoping they open baiting this year 11/1 as that is the 2 year mark. Not for me but it's my sons first year hunting. On public lands it makes for a better hunting situation where more deer are seen
- 16640 Educate the public concerning the wolf population is not killing all the deer. Many hunters I have talked with believe that they do not see any deer because they are being killed by wolf packs.
- 16641 I question closing the entire Oconto County to baiting because of one CWD case in a game farm in the southwestern side of the county. I would suggest a designated # of mile radius instead.
- 16642 saw no deer during bow,gun,or muzzleloader 2017! last deer harvested was by bow in 2009.what gives ,where are the deer? i spent about 90 hrs. hunting deer 2017 and nothing to show for it.
- 16643 did not see a deer bow hunting gun hunting or muzzle loader. spent about 80hrs. total hunting. where are the deer? do not need any antlerless tags. I hunt the national forest!
- 16644 Reduce the antlerless quota until the population increases. Harvest numbers do not show an increase in the population so don't increase the antlerless permits.
- 16645 Hard to meet goal of herd increase when recommend to increase antlerless tags. Continued cold and abundant snow is going to take its toll on herd.
- 16646 Ban baiting in this and all DMU's state wide. More than half of the state already have bans, make it statewide to help enforcement.
- 16647 Please don't mess with the crossbow hunting season. It should remain the same as it is, the entire bow hunting season!!!
- 16648 Just seeing deer can make a hunt in my unit. We have hunters who have gone several years without seeing a deer.
- 16649 Get rid of baiting. It creates some ugly situations on public land i.e. National Forest.
- 16650 All I have to say is keep up the good work! Thanks to all on the CDAC team.
- 18055



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Oneida, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

163 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 92
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 23
I hunt in this unit: 144
General interest in this unit: 22

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 133
Bow: 81
Crossbow: 62
Muzzleloader: 48

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.85
Maximum: 58

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 41
Mostly Private Land: 25
Public and Private Land About Equally: 24
Mostly Public Land: 26
Exclusively Public Land: 26
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 20
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 28
Somewhat crowded: 22
Very crowded: 28
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 25
Fewer: 31
Same: 52
More: 38
Many More: 12
Unsure: 5

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	11	20	36	42	49	5



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	9	15	31	46	52	10
Bonus Tags - Public land:	10	17	35	39	54	8
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	22	129	12
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	67	88	8

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.20
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.84
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.22
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.43
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.32
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.25
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.00
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.22
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.70
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.28
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.47



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Comments for Oneida, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16651 I moved to Rhinelander in August of 2015. I am a self employed logger and have been working north of Tripoli 5 mi. east of Willow rd. in the county forest. In the past 3 yrs. the deer herd there has diminished to the point of where this 1st rifle season I My 14 yr. old daughter and I quit hunting the area and went to a county further south to hunt. Not only are the deer numbers aweful in the Oneida co. forest there but this 1st yr. there is slim to no hunters there either anymore due to a very poor number of deer. I have been a logger for 30 yrs. now and an avid hunter and outdoorsman since I was a child. The bear and wolf population is so high there that their are few deer left there. Through the summer of and fall of 2017 I had seen 11 bears and 2 wolves and 6 deer. I also have a pic. of a bear eating off of the tailgate of my pickup at 5 oclock in the afternoon in the beginning of June when the bears should not be so bold looking for food. I know north of Creasant lk. and hwy 8 near the farmland and potato fields the deer herd is enormous and over populated but is private hunting only. What about all of us tax payers that don't have private land to hunt on and have no other choice other than to hunt on public land??? Us hunters and our children should have a place to hunt deer and to see deer while hunting but the predators outweigh the deer numbers and it is forcing us hunters to go elsewhere. What a shame and a waste of beautiful land for deer hunting.

16652 Because of the escalating numbers of wolves , the deer population has adopted moving closer to homesteads as well as lake shore (homes) for protection. This year I saw numerous deer in this type of habitat and was proud to see them 'get smart' to protect themselves. However those increase numbers of small deer , also struggled mightily because of snow depths. I was able to harvest a yearling doe , from a car kill , and she was basically a skeleton. (Meat was still very good) Any case the younger deer , I can see the pain they are going thru along road sides. 2018 hunt season should not increase in kill permits , but if 2018 winter isn't as severe as this 2017 winter , I believe it is time to allow doe permits to increase in 2019. I am a strong believer in the crossbow , because most baby boomers are having tougher times physically to actually pull a traditional bow. Rifle season I would like to see it shortened to a 7 day hunt. Lets face it most hunters down below are only in our hunt unit for 1 1/2 days of the whole hunt season.

16653 First of all, under the circumstances that have occurred in Oneida county from March 29th to April 4th. The antlerless tags should be "O" or at least cut in half!! With a snowfall about 15-16 inches plus what was already on the ground, you are looking at 24-28 inches on the ground as of April 4th. It is the worst time of the year to have a huge snow amount on the ground for pregnant does. I think you will have alot of still borns this year!! You will still have below freezing temps during the day thru April 9th. Below freezing temps at night until the end of the month. The predators will have a field day. Also I think we should have a talk about dividing the county again. A lot of people do not understand how some counties can get divided and we can't. That was a lame excuse what the DNR told the commitee. The other counties are the same age your board is. It goes to show you with having "1" person On the resource board from the North, that they do not know what is going on in some areas of the state!! Lane Webster



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- 16654 I have hunted the Willow area for 55 years and have never seen the deer population this low. Last fall I bow hunted many days and hours, being retired. I never saw a deer while actually hunting. This was the first year that has ever happened to me. During the rifle season I saw 5 deer, does and fawns. None while I was on stand. We have a group of 9 hunters and make drives during mid day. My group of 9 guys never saw a buck. All of of sit mornings and evenings and make drives during mid day. Pretty sad! I did however see two wolves at different spots one of which was injured or sick. Both were on the road during daylight. The sick one was reported to DNR. Something needs to be done to improve the Willow area that is all state land or paper mill land. What a shame we have this beautiful piece of land that less and less people are coming to because it's a waste of time to hunt there. Very few young kids are taking up hunting here and I can understand why.
- 16655 I attended the 3/22 meeting in SC. The county wildlife biologist commented that the current snow crust conditions that we had been experiencing for about 2 weeks at that time was not good for the health of the herd. My concern is that with the additional snow we have received since 3/22 and the late spring is going to have a detrimental effect on our deer herd. The does that survive are likely to have lower birth rates. Snow cover is likely for several more weeks and with a late green up this is not conducive to good fawn survival. I would like to see zero antlerless tags on public lands. This is based on the many miles I walk bird hunting on public forest. The deer sign is very minimal on public lands I bird hunted last fall. I think private lands can handle some antlerless harvest. I live in Sugar Camp near ag fields. There does appear to be enough deer in these areas to handle an antlerless hunt. Thanks for all your efforts on the CDAC committee.
- 16656 I live just to the east of Hwy 47 in the town of Woodruff, and there are wayyyyyyyyy too many deer. It's ridiculous, and it hasn't been uncommon this winter to see over 12 deer in a group.....They're browsing everything. They have very little fear of humans, and often you can walk up within 10 yards before they bound off a ways.....They're habituated to not being hunted by hunters or predators, fed by some (still despite the fact that it's illegal), and their numbers are getting out of control. I hunt in the farmland areas of Chippewa and Eau Claire counties, and the deer sign around my neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods is indicative of a higher deer density than down there. The CDAC committee should increase the number of tags available , and/or recommend the local towns have hunts/permits available to deal with the over abundance of deer near town. They're at nuisance levels around here.
- 16657 I believe the deer population is down in the area that I hunt and this is why my boys do not hunt in Oneida county with me. They do not want to sit all day and not see (1) deer. They used to hunt with me back in 2003 & 2004. I have been watching the deer population and yes it is getting a little better. In my area I believe it is because of the large land investors, or company, Heartland, that owns a huge portion of the forest is keeping a lot of the roads closed. I don't like the fact that I can't get to where I would like to go, but I feel it is helping from deer not getting shot off both from legal hunting and illegal hunting. Junior hunters should have a chance to harvest a deer to get them interested in hunting. I believe if we could cut out the permits for a year or two our young hunters could enjoy deer hunting much more because they would at least see a deer or two. Thank you.
- 16658 The deer numbers are declining to some degree in this unit compared to prior years. The balance of the herd, buck to doe, is skewed more heavily toward doe. I would consider having a reduced doe harvest and putting a higher antler size restriction on what constitutes a legal buck. Basically from my observations I think shoot some does, but fewer than proposed, and reduce the buck harvest as well, but still give everyone a chance to hunt. The deer farm issue, which is a CWD issue really needs to be addressed. I understand there are complications due to the DNR and the agriculture department having different and opposing authority, but we are all watching the destruction of what was once one of the greatest deer herds in the country. The ramifications are very broad, and known, and not necessary to list. Thanks for your efforts, please don't stop trying to improve our herd.



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- 16659 Based on the survey question regarding an "antlerless only" season because the Oneida county 3 year goal is to maintain the population, tells me the council is misguided and I question how they are calculating the desired carrying capacity numbers. Oneida county does not have an overpopulation problem. Quite the contrary. An antlerless only season to trim the herd would be nothing short of foolish. The council should know a few consecutive harsh winters or a growth in the wolf population would rapidly decimate the herd. Cutting the herd is easy (increase antlerless permits) whereas building the herd back up can take years. All the while, hunters lose interest, new hunter recruitment goes to zero and one of Wisconsin's greatest traditions continues to fade. The goal should be to slowly grow the herd in Oneida county.
- 16660 Deer numbers in our area have risen noticeably over the past couple years. We see far more does than bucks, and even though a good portion of our hunting party doesn't shoot does, having the opportunity makes it much more interesting and gets hunters in the woods for more hours. We also see wolves on occasion, and while they can scatter the herd or affect activity, they do not seem to have decimated the herd as many would argue. I see the biggest factor in hunter success being the fact that all signs point to deer moving increasingly nocturnally. Baiting, even though illegal, is definitely a factor. It's also pretty obvious that many hunters who complain of seeing no deer are hunting the same ground they've hunted for decades, and while the cover and food sources have changed, the hunters' tactics have not.
- 16661 the herd is still recovering. I believe we should not kill that many doe unless we are able to kill some of the wolves. I saw 23 deer last year over the 9 day gun hunt. I also saw 6 wolfs during that time. In the 90s I would see 20 deer a day and maybe a coyote all season. I hunt hard and feel that is why I saw the number of deer I did. Everyone else in my dwindling camp saw 10 or less for the week. my camp used to be 12 to 16 strong now we have a hard time getting 6 to come up. people like seeing deer in the woods. increase their odds let the herd grow a little more. I don't believe the dnr has an accurate way to count the deer and come in way to high on the #s. I also believe they are very low on their count of wolf's. If you let the herd grow the hunters will come.
- 16662 Baiting bans and fewer opportunities have affected hunter participation and recruitment. Supplemental feed on the range once, along with favorable logging practices and fewer large predators, led to a population boom that many hunters still judge more-recent seasons against. Allow baiting and feeding and manage state lands to benefit deer and grouse. A doe-only season would be a great way to lose more hunters. I hunt for meat, and if I find myself purchasing a license to try for a tag I might not get, I am going to expect a refund, as many others will. I'm not traveling further than normal to hunt areas I don't know. I've purchased deer gun licenses since I was 12, and archery licenses since I was 16. I will buy neither if they come without a money-back guarantee.
- 16663 The deer population outside of populated areas,, towns, still has not recovered from what they were.. in areas north of Rhinelander there are few deer.. I see as many wolves and coyotes as I do deer.. the deer I see are same few over and over.. Seasons need to return what they were 20-30 years ago, remove all special seasons, remove the so called traditional hunt.. those muzzle loaders have twist barrels, sights in line firing pin.. shoot 200 yards.. they can be used during the regular season, kids can learn to hunt during the regular season like we did without dads.. tommy Thompson destroyed the deer herd and the dnr by managing it for money and not the benefit of the wildlife.. this land can handle bigger herds as proved in the past.. you just destroyed it...
- 16664 With the extended winter in onieda county this year it would be foolish not to have a zero antlerless qouta this coming deer season...or at least reconsider the Oneida cdac recommended restructuring Western onieda county as its own unit...and make it zero quota..I live and have hunted Western onieda county for 45 years and the deer population is a fraction of what it used to be...decemated by predators and unit 31 being absorbed in to the whole county unit..I am not alone in this opinion...many people have expressed this at countless meetings and been ignored..do something to save the deer before you lose all the hunters \$\$...maybe you could save some\$ on advertising for license sales if there was a few more deer around... thanks Tim Clawson



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- 16665 When will the DNR stop managing deer as a revenue source, and focus on the quality of bucks. The "can't eat the antlers" mindset is moot as no one survives solely on venison these days. Too many sportsman who call themselves "hunters" are thrill killers who not only fail to do the necessary homework, but lack woodsmanship skills. There are hunters who would kill 20 deer if you allowed it. The DNR needs to foster a culture of QDM. For a couple seasons, I would like to see the minimum legal antler size increase to 4-pointers and greater. Also, one tag, hunter's choice; bow, gun, or muzzleloader. More does, mean more bucks, but they have to have a chance to grow up a little. As the quality of bucks increases, the doe herd can be thinned.
- 16666 CWD is being selectively fought by the DNR. You know what to do statewide--do it. Game farms are out of control on their containment of CWD. Do something about it. No tags, no registration, bright pink and yellow, allowed private vs public harvest numbers, crossbow and /or bow licenses, no minimum age to hunt, group hunt for bow/crossbow, voluntary CWD hunt in Lincoln count after CWD found in March, youth hunts, disable hunts, vet hunt for does, and much more are all bad judgement and laws on your part. Quit cow-towing to the few and do what is best for the majority and this valuable resource. Money should not drive your decisions and agenda. I really am trying to be nice, but I find it hard with these decisions made by you.
- 16667 I hated the idea of reintroducing wolves to our area but lets face it, they are here to stay. Maybe if there are less antlerless tags available there would be enough deer to satisfy hunters and predators. All I can hope for now is for the wolf population to get so high that they develop some sort of illness and they wipe themselves out. Many of the people in my hunting party are considering selling their land and hunting other states where there are more opportunities to harvest quality deer. Wisconsin deer hunters have totally lost respect for the DNR. I hope this survey will help. Although its ok for me, the number of hunters on both public and private land around me has dropped more than 50%. We need more deer.
- 16668 We try to manage our land for deer, we provide on going good habitat and food plots, taking many hundred trail cam pix it is discouraging to see the big increase in wolfs, I think the best thing is to control them, I know it is a dilemma , another thing that would help if there was a antler size limit, say 3 pts on one side, I know this does work, it was implemented in Florida, and at first every one complained, in 2 years everyone was surprised how the hunting has improved, I think that would help a lot here, I am sure this nothing new to most of you, having a doe harvest does not help at this point unless there is over browsing, which I have not see, thanks for the Great Web site and detailed info, Dale
- 16669 Regarding CWD concerns I have some thoughts to cosider. The intense sampling area should also include the area from Camp 10 up to the Three Lakes Deer Farm. There is a good chance the disease spread from Three Lakes to Camp 10 even though it is +-30 miles. Also, look at where manure from the deer farm is being spread onto fields in the area. Double fencing should be required on deer farms to limit contact with wild deer. Limiting the doe tags put a lot of pressure on bucks, especially young ones. Maybe put out a limited number of doe and buck tags in certain areas. Also, there can be alot of variability across each county. Consider putting out tags by township instead of by public and private.
- 16670 Quota numbers can NOT be based off of the population in the farmlands of Starks where there are no hunters and less predators. Allow doe tags to first year youths and to youths that have never harvested a deer before but after they harvest one they should be grouped into the same rules/tags just like every other hunter. This will help get the youth engaged but also they will realize they need to work hard to succeed for the future. Lower the high number of private tags. Youth tags are not used only by the youth and private tags aren't used only on private land...for those that didn't know that. We need to have a healthy population so our kids can enjoy hunting the way us die-hards do.



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- 16671 To many wolf's, I can show you many pictures of different ones with distinctive marks that show they are not the same, pictures of deer kills from these predators. There is more than you think. We maintain a good deer population, now what. What about being able to shoot a nice buck? A point system would be so good for the area/ state, think in 3 years if you didn't allow anyone to shoot a 8 point or smaller.. it would make the area more desirable, big deer=local business. Big deer =Happy hunters of all age. It just sucks when you see spike and forks being shot. 1st time hunters, yes. And why did they change the hunting age, craziest, dumbest thing yet..
- 16672 It was great being able to harvest does in 2017. It really was nice being able to get some venison in the freezer and still be able to wait for a decent buck. I am glad the committee recommended antlerless tags again this year. In my opinion, there could be about twice the number of private land tags without harming the population. There are a lot of deer throughout the center of the county. Stockpiling deer in areas with a lot of deer is not going to help the numbers East of hwy 45 and West of hwy 51. Thanks again for recommending some tags. The public land # seems about right to me, but I'd like to see more private land tags.
- 16673 The pressure on bucks has to stop. Allow antlerless harvest and lots of it. Anyone who claims there are "no deer" needs to open there eyes. It is routine to see 50-100 deer just driving around Oneida County during the last hour of daylight right now. Get out and scout and you will see deer. If they are not on your property go find a spot that is better or work to improve your habitat. We have CWD on our landscape and it will get worse if we don't do our part to control deer numbers. Deer are overbrowsing the woods. We need to bring the herd in check and not worry about seeing herds of deer under everyone's treestand.
- 16674 let the poor people, that live off the land take deer anytime they want many people can not afford food... we are so poor...can we harvest deer so we can stay alive...please...oh please....we can not even afford a license.. we is so poor...!!! poor me.....please tell the supper clubs not to chain there dumpsters shut so we can go through them to get food...yes its dangerous last nite i had to wrestle with a 300 pound bear for rights to access the dumpster..finially he won..i thought they were sleeping this time of year !!! i guess not !!!
- 16675 The deer population in the western part on Oneida county is still low. I did see more deer last fall. Many days spent afield went without seeing a single deer. Often 4 to 7 days in a row. My neighbors have not taken a deer on their 80 acres for over six years. They have gone from five people hunting down to two. Last year in the section my property is in (3 miles by 2 miles) only 5 individuals hunted. Most days no cars or trucks where parked by the public land. It seems like hunters are giving up. I have had success, but this may because I have been hunting for more than 50 years and just like spending time in the outdoors.
- 16676 No doe seasons in Vilas, Oneida (east of Eagle River in Nicolet), and Forest counties is finally starting to pay off as we saw increased doe/fawn activity after dark this past hunting season. This was very exciting and should be continued. Quite frankly we should not be shooting does in the Nicolet or Wilderness area east of Eagle River going out 20 miles plus. The 1.4 deer per 40 acre goal is ridiculous up in that area and you can not estimate the damage wolves, coyotes, bobcats, bear, and even now Eagles (recent U-tube video proved it) do to the fawn population or even the young (stupid) buck population.
- 16677 While you can do all manner of playing with harvest numbers, in my opinion, the key to restoring a quality deer hunt that will attract and retain hunter numbers is access to hunting lands. When Owens-Illinois Corp. owned most of this county and welcomed hunters and others on its logging roads and forest lands, the deer hunt was an event even in the lean harvest years. Now if you don't own enough land to get your neighbors to pay your taxes (forest crop closed) the hunting season is a very bad joke. Look around and see if you see any orange in the woods after opening day!



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- 16678 In regards to the Influence of predators on deer, I have witnessed many wolf deer kills over the years. I have had wolves in packs walk up to my stand with little to no fear and on my walk out witnessed the deer kills. Over-browsing isn't an issue where I hunt in western Oneida county due to low populations of deer. Private areas around lakes where there are populations of people seem to hold deer, but when you get a mile away the deer populations decrease. so overall based on deer per square mile the population is low and no antlered deer should be harvested.
- 16679 My opinion and observations is that there are more deer in the eastern half of the county than the western half by a considerable amount. INcrease in does and fawns around the lakes in the eastern half. western half is still very sparse and this herd needs to grow. We should consider splitting the county at hwy 51. Winter is far from over in Oneida county. The deer are struggling these last few weeks, especially since the snowmobile trails are not being used. Reduce the doe harvest for both private and public because of the late winter.
- 16680 I feel the deer population is on the rise in Oneida County in the several years since the two hard winters. Because of predation the deer population is rising slower than should be expected. The winters have been fairly mild but predation has caused held herd increases lower than I would have suspected for this area. Not allowing baiting in an area where CWD was not found in the county, but rather, in the next county seems odd and overkill. The CWD was found on farms with purchased deer as well. Is this not overkill?
- 16681 I ran 28 deer cameras in the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest surrounding Lake Tomahawk through the month of December. The locations of these cameras were on prime food locations. My data showed a decent population of deer. However, I am concerned by the lack of mature bucks. I had zero 3.5 year old bucks or older on film. What can be done to increase hunters satisfaction, by not only more deer sightings, but also increase the percentage of mature/trophy whitetails in this area?
- 16682 Hello, For the past 3 years we have seen an increase in deer along HWY 51 From HWY K North to Just south of Hazelhurst. It is our belief that the state could offer more antlerless tags for the 2018 gun season. Our hunters all report an increase in does in these areas but the buck count remains steady (we have not seen an increase in the bucks) If more studies could be done to confirm this and adjust the quantity of antlerless tags that would be very appreciated. Thank You
- 16683 I had seen about a dozen deer in 10 days in the field bow hunting. 2 were small bucks I passed on, the others does and fawns. During about the same amount of time the year before I had seen only 1 deer. For the first time we had 2 different wolves on cameras in our area including fresh tracks the day of my arrival from Florida. There was also 2 bears on cameras in the month of September. There were 5 other bucks on cameras, but nothing larger than a small 8 pt.
- 16684 I am disappointed that the current DNR goal is only to maintain current deer numbers and feel it should be to increase the current herd. I also feel that deer numbers on public lands are low but the deer on private residential areas are extremely high and the DNR needs be able to differentiate between those populations and find ways to decrease residential populations without greatly decreasing public lands populations that are low
- 16685 Impose or utilize antler restrictions. Make this county great like it used to be. The amount of 3.5 year old or older bucks is terrible compared to years ago. Thousands of deer camera pics on 200 acres of prime managed land reveals zero 3.5 year old or older bucks. Totally ridiculous!! I Know of many private land owners in Oneida county that are either selling their land or looking elsewhere because of horrible buck hunting!
- 16686 Would like to see more mature bucks and better buck to doe ratio. Too much pressure on young bucks. Would like to see management adopt a one buck per hunter system and no party or cross tagging allowed. If you take a buck, no matter the season, you are done buck hunting for the year. Furthermore, I believe a public zone with antler size restrictions and limited buck tags (draw system) may be of interest to many hunters.



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- 16687 If you choose to hunt does only for this unit. The unit should be closed to deer hunting completely on 2018. Or allow buck hunting, but needs 3 standing points on one side. Most of the population is around farm land areas in this unit. Allowing antlerless hunting in other areas will hurt the deer population. From experience, hunting only 80 to 100 acres away from a farm the deer population definitely decreases. Thanks
- 16688 With over a dozen cameras out on 145 acres of private land surrounded by gated off public land (basically not hunted) and 300 acres on the other side we had approximately 15 deer on our property. This was with 8 acres of plush food plots and we know we were sucking in deer from the surrounding properties. That is ridiculous. We had at least 6 different bears on our property through out the season.
- 16689 There are not enough deer in this unit to be holding antlerless seasons. We are seeing less and less deer every year. Wolves are the biggest problem in this unit. We see more wolves during hunting season than deer. Antlerless deer tags should not be giving out for several years to help the population rebound. Bars and resorts used to be packed full of hunters and now no one comes up anymore.
- 16690 I would like to suggest an antler restriction. It seems the vast majority of 1.5 year old bucks I have seen in this area are spikes or forks. I believe if we had a 3 point on 1 side antler restriction we be allowing the majority of 1.5 year old bucks surviving the deer season. This could enhance the hunting experience by seeing more mature bucks and more rutting activities.
- 16691 I don't understand why kids get a doe tag through the age of 17 i'm all for a 1 doe tag after they finish hunter safety course I believe after that it turns into a group party tag. since the end of hunter choice permits I have not seen the quality of bucks in this area. when this zone was changed from 39 to 38 deer hunting here has never been the same
- 16692 There are plenty of deer in Oneida County and there needs to be at least as many tags as there were last year or more. Deer are not evenly distributed across the landscape so not all areas are going to have great deer numbers. This winter has shown that you cannot stockpile deer, mother nature will do your job if you are not willing too.
- 16693 I saw one deer this year and two deer last year for all of gun season. Not being able to feed where there is no fields of corn is really gonna hurt those in the north. Also allowing kids to not hunt is gonna kill the sport. If they cannot get a chance at taking a deer then the sport will end in future. thank you for letting me comment.
- 16694 The whitetail deer population in the Chequamegon forest is dismal at best. This unit should continue to be buck only for at least another 3 years. The last three years hunting in this unit have been frustrating. I and several in our hunting party have not seen a buck in the last two years. Having any antlerless tags is foolish.
- 16695 Youth hunt for antlerless deer should be allowed only 1 year after application! No early youth season! Hunters need to learn to hunt the proper way and accept the consequences for not getting a deer if they are not learning the art of the hunt. Not physically registering a deer is also a bad idea. It is a recipe for poaching.
- 16696 Winter severity index high. It has been a long long and cold Winter and as I write it isn't over yet. I am hoping the CDAC'S do the right thing and reduce the quota to zero. The deer herd needs a break. There is plenty of scientific evidence to show what happens to the deer herd when Winter lingers into the spring.
- 16697 I'm glad for the slight increase in antlerless tags. I wish the council would heed the advice of the biologist, perhaps meet somewhere in the middle. Managing deer based off gut feelings and populism isn't the best way to go. Lets look for a little balance instead of the boom and bust cycles we've seen before 2014.
- 16698 I am still frustrated with the lack of deer vs. the sighting of wolves. I saw one deer and 1 wolf in 3 days in the woods with a gun. during bow hunting, I saw 5 deer in 4 days, and 2 wolves. Ten and more years ago, I would see a handful each day. I spend a lot of time scouting each year and it is getting worse.



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- 16699 In the area I hunt it is rare to see many bucks as there are so many does around the bucks do not need to compete with each other. In some farm fields it is common to see 50+ does eating and not a single buck. More opportunities for antlerless deer tags would help the overall population too.
- 16700 Based on observations, I believe there are more deer then what the DNR thinks. In addition, I also believe that the baiting ban is not right since the CWD deer was found on a game farm and not in the wild herd. If found in the wild here, I would support the ban on baiting.
- 16701 There is no reason not to be continuing to have antlered only seasons (buck only). The deer have not rebounded near enough in the county to support those types of numbers. We keep saying it over and over and our concerns don't get taken into consideration
- 16702 The best information indicated that 1700 deer should be the quota to maintain the herd. Why this was ignored is unclear. If you think increasing permits by 200 (65 deer) is going to make a difference when managing a herd exceeding 25,000, CDAC is crazy!
- 16703 Being a land owner and retired, I favor provisions for senior land owners (>62) to be able to harvest antlerless deer. Consider combining it with the junior/youth hunt. I understand promoting hunting to our youth but lets also be nice to our seniors.
- 16704 Everyone should have the chance to harvest a deer for their family if you are limiting or withholding antlerless tags hunters should recoevd an either or tag so they can sacrifice their chance at a buck for meat if they choose to
- 16705 We need to grow the deer heard we had nine guys hunting last year 3 of us saw deer and only shot 2 deer 1 doe and 1 buck not a very good year. Not as many deer as people think and we covered a big area.
- 16706 You need to split the county East and West to bring the herd back to the eastseen portion of the county by the willow flowage and surrounding area. You cannot manage this county as one unit.
- 16707 Considering the length of the winter the committee should rethink their original quota. I would Strongly encourage them to do the right thing and reduce it. Maybe even consider a zero.
- 16708 Over the past 10 years we have seen very few deer, especially bucks in the Oneida area. During gun season and throughout archery season our group's harvest has been at an all time low.
- 16709 There are very few bucks seen in this unit. There are herds of does numbering 30+ in different fields within a 2 mile radius!!!! Need a antlerless deer hunt ONLY in this unit.
- 16710 I think there was too many antlerless permits given out in 2017. I've only been seeing about 1 out of 15 antlerless deer that are older than 2017's fawns. Seems very odd to me
- 16711 Allowing crossbow during archery is a mistake. May as well allow a rifle. Also need to go back to smaller management units for more accurate herd mangement
- 16712 If the goal is to "maintain," you won't do it by shooting fewer antlerless deer than antlered. You ignored the biological data that you were provided!
- 16713 12 people in our group last season and we got one 2 1/2 year old buck. Most people in our group did not see a deer in the first 4 days of the season.
- 16714 Deer numbers are better but still too low. Couple more years of limited doe tags is needed. Predators are rampant and must be controlled.
- 16715 Baiting is the #1 problem affecting deer movement, distribution and CWD transmission. Outlaw it and hunting will improve.
- 16716 I never have a problem filling tags.. stop relying on research from people who spend minimal amounts of time in the woods
- 16717 We need to control the wolf population. I do appreciate the wolf we just need to control their numbers.



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16718 I would suggest limiting one buck per year per hunter. Not one with a bow and one with a firearm.

16719 Finally starting to see more deer the past two years. Stop killing does. No baiting.

16720 I would like to see buck only in this area for at least another couple of years.

16721 There is a very strong need for better enforcement of the baiting/feeding ban.

16722 With regard to antlerless deer hunting, archery tags should be either or.

16723 Don't like having to choose public or private on antlerless tags!

16724 Need to reduce deer numbers living near residential areas.

16725 There are no deer in my area. The Wolf cleaned them out

16726 Bring back the BACK TAG and REGISTRATION STATION.

16727 Willow Flowage area should be a seperate unit

16728 To many deer in towns needs greater control!

16729 too many does taken & not seeing more deer!

16730 last season I saw several youn bucks

16731 Earn a buck as CDAC TOOL.

16732 wolve count to high

18056



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Outagamie, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

73 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 50
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
I hunt in this unit: 69
General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 62
Bow: 40
Crossbow: 35
Muzzleloader: 32

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.29
Maximum: 51

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 49
Mostly Private Land: 8
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 9
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 13
Fewer: 21
Same: 29
More: 7
Many More: 1
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	6	11	36	14	6	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	8	30	20	11	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	5	26	25	9	6
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	18	47	7	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	32	35	6
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	47	23	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	9	59	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.49
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.22
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.71
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.15
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.03
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.37
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.58
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.22
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.75
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.45



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Comments for Outagamie, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16733 I, THINK WE NEED TO BROADEN THE PERSPECTIVE, I KNOW THE DNR IS TRYING TO REACH OUT TO THE YOUTH TO GET THEM MORE INTO HUNTING BUT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF HUNTERS/TAGS AND SEEING LESS DEER IS NOT ACTUALLY HELPING. MOST OF THE PEOPLE I TALKED TOO ARE GETTING FRUSTRATED BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T EVEN SEE A DEER. EVERY YEAR IT SEEMS LIKE THE POPULATION IS CUT IN HALF. WHY NOT TAKE ON A PORTION OF MICHIGAN LAWS AND LIMIT ANTLER SIZE LIKE YOU CANNOT SHOOT A DEER UNLESS IT HAS 3 ON ONE SIDE. IT ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT SHOOTING DEER AS MUCH AS SEEING THEM. PLUS WE WILL HAVE LESS HUNTERS SHOT. EVERY YEAR URBAN SPRAWL TAKES PLACE MORE ROADS, MORE HOUSES. DEER ARE LOSING OUT ON ALL SIDES OF THE SPECTREM, PRETTY SOON WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO LIMIT HOW MANY YOU CAN HARVEST BEFORE ITS TOO LATE. WHOSE PROBLEM IS THAT? THAT'S THE REAL QUESTION. ITS PRETTY SAD THAT I'VE BEEN PAYING FOR AN OVER PRICED TAG TO GO TO WYOMING EVERY OTHER YEAR JUST SO I CAN HARVEST A NICE ANIMAL BECAUSE THEY ACTUALLY LIMIT AND HAVE RESTRICTIONS AND CARE ABOUT THERE ANIMAL HARVEST AND DON'T JUST SEE THE \$. I HONESTLY DO NOT FEEL THIS WAY ABOUT THE WISCONSIN DNR. OUR DNR WANTS MORE TAGS SOLD MORE DEER HARVESTED.. MORE-MORE-MORE-MORE ANTERLESS HUNTS MORE HOLIDAY HUNTS. WHO IS PUSHING THIS IDEAS-LAWS. I KNOW FOR A FACT ITS NOT A HUNTER IN WISCONSIN. SO WHO IS IT?

16734 thank you for the opportunity to comment, this is a great program! It is very difficult to comment accurately due to the size of the management unit. Certain areas are a bit heavy on deer with-in the unit while other areas are very low or much less than what the habitat could carry/maintain. the difficulty I personally feel is the GREEDY farmers that are still after the crop damage money and kill every deer that crosses the property they control so they can receive the free money. I personally plant 2 acres of corn that borders a fairly large portion of quality habitat for both deer and turkeys and that 2 acres is not consumed by the animals over the winter. But yet the bordering farmer takes advantage of the crop damage program and has 10+ acres of junk placed on property that could be used for additional crops if it was a true concern. (mind you this is an 80acre farm). Sorry for the rambling but to my point, in the area that our family personally hunts, we don't and won't let our young children harvest antlerless deer because the greedy farmer has the population so low and keeps killing everything they can to receive the crop damage dollars. Thank you for reading and please consider evaluating the farmers for actual issues on this program.

16735 these surveys are smostly a waste of time. for the dnr to say there ie more deer now then 20 years ago is a joke. i talk to many hunters in our area and its the same answer. not seeing hardly any deer. if you think young hunters will contine to hunt is wishfull thinking on your part. my son who is 19 dont want to hunt anymore. he hunt on my 100 acre private. two opening days and only see 1 deer. 20 years ago we would see 75-100. you people have destroyed the fun hunting we once enjoyed. im 57 years Old and my brother who ownes the land with me is 59. we are ready to sell our land after this year. the hunting is pure pathetic. i dont want to here all your excuses why the hunters dont see deer. unless the deer learned to fly, there are NO tracks. also 50 times as many people live outside the cities, thats why there is more deer accidents. there are not more or too many deer. the pencil pushers and people making decisions on deer quantities should be ashamed of themselves. more people will quit hunting because of horrible hunting decisions on your behalf. listen once to people who know the truth. my last year hunting !!!!!!!



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- 16736 Deer hunting has been a traditional mainstay in Wisconsin for a long time. It also means something different to all of us. That being said, it is my opinion that we have made the deer season so complex, it has taken the joy out of the sport. My time spent in the field is limited, I'm not looking at dates to try and figure out which season is on for the week! If I need to wear orange, or if youths are hunting. I also don't care if someone wants to hunt with a rifle, or shotgun, or muzzle loader, or crossbow, or compound bow, or whatever else we can throw into the mix. I agree we need to keep bow and our traditional 9 day gun season separate, but after that, let's just go and hunt and enjoy the outdoors! Rules upon rules take away the enjoyment we find, and tend to pit us, as hunters, against each other. We need to view our own passion and enjoyment of our sport as a whole group, not separate entities vying for seasons! Truth be known, there are a lot of people who want to see disunity within our sport. Let's eliminate some of the blockades, and just have some fun!
- 16737 Change the crossbow use to those under the age of 18 and those over the age of 50. However, anyone can use them starting the first day of the November gun deer season until the close of the late archery season. No holiday hunt. There is too much private land in Outagamie County and individuals like myself will not hunt during that time. This will not help the deer population get reduced. We already have too many gun deer seasons (its ridiculous). Extend the archery season until the end of January without the Holiday hunt let the archers control the deer. they spend more time in the woods and understand what the deer population is on that property and if it needs to be reduced. Gun hunter don't spend the time in the woods and typically don't "manage" the deer, they just slaughter them, filling tags. Me and my friends are starting to boycott the gun deer seasons because they are too long, too many. Figure out a way to let the bucks grow bigger. Limiting crossbow use will help this. Doe only season will help this.
- 16738 I do not understand the concern about CWD. I have done lots of reading about CWD. No one really seems to know how the disease is spread. One article that I read in Deer and Deer Hunting said by trying to kill most of the herd could actually do more damage, reason being is that you are killing healthy strong animals that could pass on good genetics. I would also like to see what percent of the deer tested compared to deer harvested have CWD. I believe the percent of deer with CWD is small. I would also like to know why CWD has not wiped out a deer herd in the wild or in a fenced farm. 1 last thing how can we fight a disease if we do not know how it is spread. Some say prions are found in the ground, some say it is spread by close contact with other deer. I have also read that bucks are more likely to contract CWD. So if bucks are more likely to contract CWD maybe it is spread by breeding. just a few of my thoughts.
- 16739 There is some talk about removing the crossbow during the typical archery season and creating a separate shorter season for crossbows. I believe this would be short-sighted. From the statistics the number of hunters is not increasing, but has shifted. While it is unknown if creating a shorter crossbow season would decrease the total number of individuals purchasing license, the data indicates there still is an interest to continue hunting albeit a different choice of weapon. Also, the data points to a higher success rate for crossbow users. From personal experience, while the crossbow does not enable one to take a longer shot, the crossbow is more accurate and lethal. Again, personal experience indicates not that there were more deer harvested with a crossbow than traditional archery gear but rather a greater success rate in recovering the animal; a wounded deer often still dies, but is not always recovered.
- 16740 The plan to "Maintain" deer population ??? What population ?? Have many friends who own land in the same management area. SAME STORY We have 160 acres, 30 years ago had 18 hunters, now down to 4 hunters The Wisconsin DNR horribly mismanaged the herd in this state for so many years then came out with such BS stories like the deer are moving at night, hunters only sit and don't move around..... all bull shit. I am so sick of hearing BS from the DNR I am totally fed up with it. if this questionnaire is truly for real or not who knows. I am at the point of giving it up and just hunting out west. It is too bad the deer management was so messed up for so long and couldn't be as half on the ball as the forestry group. They are outstanding



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- 16741 In my opinion, there are enough interruptions to the bow season with youth hunts & antlerless only hunts. I love bow hunting during my holiday break. I do not want the woods overrun with gun hunters during both winter holidays. Extending the bow hunt forces bow hunters to endure the cold late season while gun hunters enjoy more mild parts of the season (I'm excluding the warm early season that I avoid). Further, bow hunters baiting later into the season may cause deer to become dependent on a winter food source that will disappear halfway through the winter.
- 16742 I have been attempting to monitor deer population and movement through about 1000 acres of where I hunt. I have witnessed deer groupings of 3 to 6 at a given time. The average during most of 2017 was 5 at one time. Only one day did I see a group of 12 in a single field in 2017. During the 2017 gun season, I saw 3 yearlings and one adult antlerless deer at one time; nothing else the entire season. Only two days during this winter I saw 3 deer at one time. I see tracks in my yard and on our property but rarely see deer during the winter months.
- 16743 The crossbow season needs to be limited. I know of many wounded deer not recovered as crossbows are shot at unreasonable distances. Some hunters treat it as a gun. I would favor the crossbow season be limited to the gun and muzzleloader seasons except for disabled hunters. Crossbows are ruining the season for bow hunters and gun hunters by taking a higher percentage of the older bucks due to the longer season and the ease of not having to draw a bow.
- 16744 I suggest that hunter's receive the given amount of deer tags (buck and antlerless) for they units they choose, and are able to harvest those deer when during any season they choose. If they would like to fill all tags during bow season, they can, or both in gun they can. Basically what you have in place with the antlerless tags, but do the same for the buck tags. Don't label the tags as "Gun Buck Only" and "Bow Buck Only".
- 16745 Deer sightings and car interactions (I live and hunt by a major highway) I notices as significantly down. Archery season is already too long, there should be not be an extension through January. If you feel additional deer need to be harvested, extend gun deer season. Most efficient method of harvesting deer we currently have.
- 16746 Most people buy hunting land to see deer not for forestry results. Get over the forestry part of it people want to see deer! no matter how many tags you give us people aint going to shoot them.why would you want to ruin your deer herd! most familys only want a couple deer thats why you always have extra tags;
- 16747 Would like to see on a survey; one buck tag available for each bow and gun licences (as they are currently). However would like to see them non-weapon specific. Each can be used with either weapon. Also, I am extremely supportive of the season being extended through January.
- 16748 I would like to see a reduction of gun hunting, we have a gun youth hunt, 9 day gun deer season, 10 day muzzle loader hunt and a 4 day antler less hunt zone T hunt. I feel that we are over hunting the deer with this many gun hunts make the deer more nocturnal.
- 16749 Instead of extending bow/crossbow through January, make the 10 day gun hunt season longer past the Thanksgiving Holiday. Allow people to hunt with shotguns during muzzle loader season. Can hunt with muzzle loaders during 10 day gun hunt season.
- 16750 There should be a 4 point on one side rule and 15" wide before harvest of any buck so we can let the bucks mature at least one year. Neighbors kill off all the yearling bucks
- 16751 It would be unfair to all the hunters that purchased a crossbow in the last couple of years to have a crossbow only season, obviously the season would be shorter.
- 16752 Don't think I'd even buy a license if we ever went to antlerless only have no issues taking a doe but wouldn't bother if I couldn't take a nice buck
- 16753 i would just like to comment that the addition of the crossbow has been a good thing for the deer population control and maintaining hunters period.



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16754 I am concerned about the age structure of bucks in the county. In personal opinion, i believe 3 or 4 points on a side policy should be implemented.

16755 What can be expected by raising the allowable number of tags in 2018 when only half were sold in 2017? That logic escapes me.

16756 Thanks for authorizing a Holiday Hunt. It's a great opportunity for additional hunting with friends.

16757 We need a point restriction of 4 pts on one side minimum of 15" wide before harvest of any buck

16758 Being a mild winter is that the herd may grow. Concerned about unreported harvested deer.

16759 Make the rules simple. Way they are set up now you need a lawyer on the hunt with you

16760 We must address the urban deer population sooner rather than later.

16761 get private land owners to harvest more antlerless deer

18057



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Ozaukee, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

21 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 11
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 14
General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 8
Bow: 10
Crossbow: 6
Muzzleloader: 5

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 21.86
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 8
Mostly Private Land: 2
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 0
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 1
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 6
Same: 12
More: 0
Many More: 0
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	3	3	9	3	2	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	3	8	4	2	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	1	9	2	5	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	5	3	11	0	0	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	4	1	12	0	0	3

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	0	10	10	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	10	9	0	1

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	10	10	0
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	11	7	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	1	19	0
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	1.89
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.00
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.42
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	3.00
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.53
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.42
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.37
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.68
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.37
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.63
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.26



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Ozaukee, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 16762 Lengthening the season does nothing to reduce the deer herd. But it does tear away at the definition of a sportsman and a fair hunt. Lengthening the hunt just turns descent sportman into terrible hunters. The longer the season the more hunters are using bait, the end of the rut and much colder weather to take big bucks that they are unable to get during an normal season. This is not fair chase and your season structure is creating killers and not sportsman and I see this more and more each year it continues. The effort to lower the doe ratio is not working by extending the season. DOES ONLY season must be implemented to get future co operation and return hunters ad sportsman.
- 16763 When I started hunting 20 years ago it was normal to see at least a dozen deer a day where I hunt now im lucky if I see that in a season between gun and bow. The number of deer has gone down steadily in my and my friends opinion. With the introduction of the antlerless hunts and years where there was an unlimited number of bonus tags for 5\$ the deer heard in ozaukee and the entire state has been decimated. I feel deer hunting should go back to the way it use to be buck only or hunters choice and a 9 day gun season. Wisconsin is no longer a top destination for deer hunting anymore I myself am looking in to going out of state for deer hunting.
- 16764 You want to decrease the antlerless population, but your quota tags are too low, and why not have the Holiday Hunt? I am a bow hunter, and it would not matter to me,,,,, also the metro lines have been out of date, for a very long time. The entire county should end the season on Jan 31 A lot of us hunt a lot and like the January season..... I do think we lack in wardens, and we should be tagging our deer. I like the call in registration..... I like wildlife science and not political science, so I like also to listen to our DNR team of experts,,,,,,
- 16765 There is not enough public land in this county to issue that many public land doe tags. Crossbows should have a separate season from archery that is much shorter. The number of crossbow hunters has not increased significantly enough to benefit revenue but the number of deer kills has increased too much state wide. Going back to disabled and seniors only would be best but a great compromise is a shorter seperate season from the current archery season and NOT during the RUT.
- 16766 Scratching my head as to why you want to limit the crossbow season. All other states have an archery season that does not descriminate against cross bows. You rang the bell you can't "unring it now". People have invested thousands of dollars on Crossbows and now you want to ruin the sport the appease the vertical bow hunters.
- 16767 I've seen less and less deer the last couple years but feel they are at a healthy level.

18058



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Pepin, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

23 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 11
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 21
General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 17
Bow: 13
Crossbow: 6
Muzzleloader: 7

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 3
Average: 23.74
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 17
Mostly Private Land: 2
Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 1
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 0
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 6
Same: 9
More: 4
Many More: 1
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	4	8	8	3	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	4	11	4	3	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	2	12	3	2	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	2	14	6	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	8	14	1
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	11	10	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	2	19	2
		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a Zero Quota is adopted...				
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.45
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.18
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.59
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.95
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.23
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.18
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.59
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.55
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.68
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.82
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.45



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Pepin, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16768 As an avid bowhunter, I'm not in favor of a Holiday Hunt as it completely ruins late season hunting. The deer have already been shot at and chased with a firearm for 23 consecutive days (9 for gun, 10 for muzzleloader and 4 day antlerless hunt) and are walking around on pins and needles. They are just getting back into a relaxed pattern where a late season bowhunter might have a chance, only to have the guns come back out. The deer are already run down and stressed out as a result of the rut and previous firearms seasons. Additionally, the Holiday Hunt takes away an opportunity for the late season bowhunter to harvest a buck. Hunters that are serious about managing deer and shooting does are not going to wait until the last minute or the end of the year to fill their tags and harvest statistics have shown that when we did have a Holiday Hunt, it did not produce a significant increase in the antlerless harvest. You could hand out 20 antlerless tags to every hunter if you wanted, but the vast majority of hunters are only going to shoot what they can utilize / eat. I love venison as much as the next guy, but that being said I don't want to eat it every single day and I'm not going to go shoot deer just for the sake of doing it so that I can say I filled all of my tags. I'm also not in favor of extending the hunting season until January 31. The 2017 hunting season was very poor and deer sightings and movement was non existent, especially after early November. I hunted all of gun season, and most of muzzleloader, the 4 day antlerless hunt and late bow season and did not see a single buck over 2 yrs old. Every doe that came by me was also young or a fawn. Everyone I've talked to in the area (including several who own a few hundred acres of prime hunting land and are serious hunters) echoed my my observations / experiences. Yes, there are a decent amount of deer in Pepin County, with some parts of the county having more than others, but overall the quality of hunting in Pepin County has definitely gone downhill in recent years. The increasing bear and bobcat population also needs to be considered as it relates to deer sightings / population etc.... It's not specific to Pepin County, but rather the entire state when I say that the non resident hunting fee needs to be increased. Wisconsin hands out cheap tags to non residents like it's candy on Halloween. In addition, Wisconsin manages it's deer / hunting as a tourism thing versus a valuable renewable resource. They only care about how many licenses they can sell and the quality of hunting has suffered as a whole due to everyone shooting every deer that has a pulse. Look at the state of Iowa for example of what should be done- as a non resident you're making a several year commitment and significant financial investment just to hunt it for 1 year. With the lottery system helping regulate the number of tags, the quality of hunting remains high and people flock to the state for the chance at a deer of a lifetime.

16769 Based on the information provided, it does not seem like decreasing the deer population is the right recommendation. Deer population is the lowest it's been in the last 3 years and it's recommended to lower it even further. If hunter satisfaction surveys are of any importance, it seems like a majority of hunters were not satisfied with the amount of deer seen/harvested. How is decreasing the deer population going to improve hunter satisfaction? I am not from the area, but I come to the area during the fall for the quality of hunting. I am thankful to have great neighbors that we are all willing to work together to promote herd health and improve the quality of deer hunting. It does not appear that crop damage is a relevant issue with the current deer herd as there are very few permits applied for each year. In my opinion, if a farmer has a problem with crop damage due to deer population, that should encourage the farmer to let hunters on their land via permission or lease. I don't think crop damage permits should be considered as a solution to that problem. There are plenty of hunters who could use access to private land since public land hunters don't seem to be having as much success as hunters with access to private land. I don't think deer density is at a high enough level to be concerned about the transmission of disease. However, I do think precautionary measures should be taken to help protect against the spread of disease (banning baiting, urine based scents, etc).



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

16771 I have hunted Pepin county for 20 years, I have seen a dramatic drop in deer numbers ever since the earn a buck. I hunt in an area with a large number of small parcels of private lands, and high hunter density in Albany township. Due to the earn a buck this area was severely over harvested, the deer population in this area is at an all time low, and has yet to come back, if anything I think it has further declined. Due to the high hunter density I think that giving extra tags only hurts the area I hunt and has no impact on the areas in Pepin county where there are larger parcels of land and lower hunter density. These areas are easily controlled by the land owners and no matter how many tags you give out they are only going to harvest x number of deer to protect their deer numbers and avoid what has happened in our area.

16770 because of the dnr no tagging and on line registration how many animals are being taken and not reported? that being said how correct are your counts & estimates? all of this needs to be looked at very close before any goals are set for any future seasons. due to current reporting tourism is being greatly effected no one is going to game reg. stations and spending any money there on food / gas / supplies of any type they are bringing all of that with them, meaning the state of wisconsin is losing tax dollars i.e dnr funds. with no back tags how does a person report someone who may be trespassing, we all have orange on, short of stopping an armed person what does the land owner do. how many hunters from out of state did not even buy a lic, you cannot tell when meeting them in the woods. things need to be looked at again.

16772 I hunted private land in Pepin County for years and had the chance to take a lot of deer. Now that I hunt public land chances to take a deer are a lot less because they are pushed onto private land that doesn't see much pressure. Deer numbers are going to continue to rise when farmers would rather rent their land out for hunting then worry about how many deer their land can actually handle. Wisconsin needs to get a handle on this or it will push more and more hunters onto the public land where there is a small deer population and leave growing deer populations on the private land that hardly has any hunters on it.

16773 THE NUMBER OF ANTLERLESS TAGS CAN BE DECEIVING.....IT SEEMS IF IT IS A YOUNG DEER THE CHANCES OF BEING A BUCK FAWN ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE A GOOD CHANCE FOR SOME REASON....WE ARE SEEING A DECREASE IN MATURE BUCKS,I'M PUTTING MY MONEY ON ALL THE DOE TAGS THAT GET USED FOR THEM.....I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUTH HUNT MOVED CLOSER TO THE END OF OCTOBER..GIVE THE KIDS A CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE RUT, NOT 60 DEGREE WEATHER AND BUGS.....

16774 It doesn't seem like people hunt antlerless deer like we used to. Everyone is looking for the big buck and the herd will suffer from that. These people don't realize they are hurting their big buck hunting by not shooting the does. I would totally support the holiday hunt every year and not shooting bucks for one year.

16775 I think you need to encourage hunting by continuing the party deer hunting in the state. This encourages families to hunt together rather than an everyone for their self attitude. Not everyone who hunts is there for the large rack but for the family experience and tradition.

16776 I live in this unit on 23 acres of wooded land, I feel the deer numbers are good right now with decent hunting season we can harvest enough to keep numbers at this level. Actually this winter I didn't see many deer in area vs other years.

16777 Bring back the holiday hunt! You didn't meet your antlerless harvest goal last year without it, that's a pretty good indication that additional antlerless harvest options are needed. If folks don't like it, they don't need to hunt it.

18059



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Pierce, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

38 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 24
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
I hunt in this unit: 34
General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 29
Bow: 23
Crossbow: 14
Muzzleloader: 12

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 19.94
Maximum: 56

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 21
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 2
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 9
Same: 19
More: 7
Many More: 0
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	2	26	8	2	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	1	17	11	4	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	1	17	8	4	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	4	1	20	2	2	9
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	4	1	18	4	2	9

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	3	26	8	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	4	22	6	6

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	16	18	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	21	14	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	30	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.39
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.64
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.33
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.42
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.06
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.14
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.56
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.31
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.39
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.39
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.08



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Pierce, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 16778 In many of our Units that have healthy populations of deer we need to implement a 3 point on one side or better rule for bucks. This would give the young bucks a better chance of making it through that tough first year. 3 point on one side or better would be for 18 yoa and older hunters only. If an adult hunter shoots a buck under the size limit just have them pay a young buck penalty of \$100/\$200 or more (no crime). This would in very short order raise the quality of our WI Bucks and get more Non Hunters back into the fields. We need to manage our Buck heard much smarter than we have been. "Out with the old spiritual mumbo jumbo, the superstitions, and the backward ways. We're gonna see a brave new world where they run everybody a wire and hook us all up to a grid. Yes, sir, a veritable age of reason. Like the one they had in France. Not a moment too soon."
- 16779 As far as the Holiday Hunt during the Christmas week goes, most years the weather has gotten cold and snow depths may be an issue depending on location, so the timing isn't conducive to getting people afield and hunting. The weather, along with family commitments around the holidays make it tough to get out. To ease hunter crowding during the gun seasons, I would like to see an early gun season, set two weeks before the traditional gun season. The weather is usually better and the deer are still in rut earlier in November. Give people the choice of which gun season they want to hunt. It would spread the hunters out more, increase hunter safety, and probably increase the harvest as well. Minnesota has done this for decades, particularly in the southeastern part of the state, and it works for them.
- 16780 The continued challenge with hunting in Wisconsin is land access. Any efforts to improve this with private landowners would be greatly appreciated and do wonders for the sport of hunting. Regarding the number of antlerless tags available, I believe the number of antlerless tags the previous year is sufficient and don't understand why the reduction to 1200 tags is necessary. What we should perhaps consider is giving more free antlerless tags to hunters. Lastly, thank you for the opportunity to provide input on these topics.
- 16781 Please raise out of state license prices. Everyone and their brother come to Wisconsin to hunt because it's so cheap. They shoot everything that moves, small bucks and small fawns. We work hard to make this deer herd healthy. If more deer need to be shot maybe have a late September 4 or 2 day muzzleloader season? That may take pressure off deer during gun season. But it will still allow Bowhunter's the opening few weeks, all of October and the rut. Get rid of youth season and early and late doe hunts.
- 16782 We need to do away with the separation of public and private, many people I talk to and myself included believe it is just a money making scheme. I hunt an equal amount of both so I have to acquire tags for both. I also think you should get a buck and a doe tag with your archery and your gun license, if you want to kill more deer than that you buy whatever's leftover.
- 16783 I think you need a higher wound or deer lost count ratio assessed onto the year ending kill total. Not sure how WI DNR calculates the yearly wounding of deer but I personally feel that it's a higher percentage which needs to be formulated into the yearly kill. We found several deer wounded by gun or archery that were wounded and eventually succumbed to there wounds.
- 16784 The reduction of antlerless tags from 2,200 to 1,200 is not necessary and should stay at 2,200. As hunters in Wisconsin, access to hunting land is becoming harder and harder. Talking to private landowners about opening up to public use would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for letting me provide input on these topics.
- 16785 Regarding a rumor about not allowing crossbow deer hunting during future rutting seasons/November, I strongly object. I am 79 years old and hunted with a compound bow into my seventies until I could not put the bow back and then went to crossbow hunting so I could continue to enjoy the sport.



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- 16786 I would like trespassing laws abolished on any farm lands that receive public tax payers subsidies. I would also like to see more strict control for wider buffers (in pastures or plowed fields) around creeks, streams and other natural water ways. Thank you!
- 16787 Too many land owners post no hunting or trespassing. There are far fewer private land opportunities for hunters. Those that do allow hunting often require a lease of land. The problem isn't with harvesting deer, its being able to hunt land that has deer.
- 16788 We have too many hunting seasons. Give the deer a chance to survive the hunting season. I am an avid hunter I would like to give our deer a rest instead of being hunted for four months straight.
- 16789 Some areas of the county are over hunted with lots being so close , so in other words the does and bucks are killed off in some of these areas , while some areas have way more deer around .
- 16790 Discontinue online registration of deer kill. Too great of an opportunity to not register a kill and take another deer illegally. makes it too easy to poach.
- 16791 There should be no crossbow hunting unless a medical reason deems it necessary...move muzzleloader to last 10 days of december
- 16792 It is hard to find a place to hunt. Encourage private landowners to open their land to more hunting.
- 16793 Propose lottery system for state parks to limit numbers, increase safety, improve quality of hunt.
- 16794 Shining deer is legal in Pierce county. Is there any consideration of making shining illegal?
- 16795 I think there are a lot of deer, we need more bonus tags, and we need more places to hunt.
- 16796 you have CDAC member bragging about how he kills 28 deer of his land (problem)
- 16797 Deer numbers ok just don't over issue doe tags .
- 16798 Raise non resident license prices.
- 18060



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Polk, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

116 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 62
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
I hunt in this unit: 97
General interest in this unit: 27

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 90
Bow: 51
Crossbow: 39
Muzzleloader: 32

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 23.74
Maximum: 59

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 49
Mostly Private Land: 19
Public and Private Land About Equally: 13
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 13
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 18
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
Somewhat crowded: 15
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 27
Fewer: 38
Same: 35
More: 10
Many More: 5
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	7	9	38	31	30	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	5	32	37	39	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	5	36	32	37	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	3	40	71	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...				
	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	33	78	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...				
	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	52	55	9
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...				
	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	10	100	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.00
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.74
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.57
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.55
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.36
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.35
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.41
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.00
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.32



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Polk, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16799 I think that the numbers tell the tale when it comes to the bonus doe tags for private land owners. The private land owners don't want to harvest doe on their property, They are not buying the tags nor are they filling the doe tags that are issued. Public land bonus tags are mostly sold and filled. How about an earn a buck season for these private land owners in Polk county. Let's give that a try and see where the numbers end up. Is it possible that the private land owners are "Helping out" by using public land doe tags so that they can grow the herd on their private land?? I have heard that in the past. And it is very common to see large groups hunting these public land areas and shooting anything that moves. I have hunted public land for 40+ years in the northwest corner of Polk county, the area is known as the Barrens. The number of deer that we see per hour of time spent hunting is no where near the numbers being reported for the entire DMU which was reported to be .97 deer per hour of hunting. We are lucky to see 1-2 deer per season. Each year it gets worse and worse. This area was and still should be managed separate from the rest of the DMU. The number of deer that we see has been steadily declining each year since the DMU started to be managed as a county wide DMU. The CDAC has the power to recommend changes to the DMU boundaries. This was discussed and voted down at the 2017 Polk county CDAC meetings. Comments were made by some CDAC council advisors such as "it would be difficult to manage there area as a separate DMU. If that's the case, how did we manage the area as a separate DMU for several decades prior to the DMU going county wide?? Are there any members of the Polk CDAC council that hunt public land exclusively? Sales of deer licenses have been down for several consecutive years now. The number of young people interested in hunting is declining. It is easy to see why if they are hunting public land. If the next generation of hunters do not see deer in the woods while hunting they are going to find other activities, plain and simple. Again the proof is in the numbers. For those of us that hunt public land exclusively we need to participate in the CDAC meetings and make our voices heard in much larger numbers. More hunters need to be involved at these meetings and speak up. That is the only way that change can and will eventually happen. If 100 plus of us show up at the meetings instead of just a handful maybe then someone will listen. Please take the time, it's important to the future generations for all of us to maintain the valuable public hunting land resources!

16800 I greatly oppose giving 2 antlerless tags with each license. In our hunting party last year we had more than 30 deer tags between 6 hunters... there is absolutely no need for this. All of us are well experienced hunters and spend the time scouting, managing habitat and studying deer 365 days a year, yet during the 9 day gun season the 6 of us combined saw less than 30 deer. The CDAC needs to consist of actual hunters that understand deer, not temporary residents that come here expecting to have the city in the country. If you plant a buffet line of plants and vegetables in an area where deer frequent it is your responsibility to keep them out not by wanting them all killed. My family has had a garden for 30 years and for those that can comprehend that deer eat garden plants you take special precautions. I do applaud the CDAC for recommending no Holiday hunt this year. I know several people myself included that wait and take the week between Christmas and new years off to late season bow hunt. Last year I had to pass on a crippled buck with the bow on December 27th because I could not harvest an antlered deer. Unfortunate to see such a great animal go to waste because of such a ridiculous idea. The holiday hunt has no place in WI especially if this is the mentality of those recommending it. It's hard to see what was such a great county for deer hunting fall to such a poor status. My wife has actually talked about not deer hunting anymore because of the lack of activity. Not that she thinks it is necessary to harvest a deer every time in the woods or even have the opportunity, but to at least have a chance to see the animals you are hunting makes it more enjoyable. This also goes for the ever popular question of why are youth hunters dwindling?



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- 16801 My main concern with the issuance of all the doe tags is this. While many hunters use sensible harvest practices, in my area there are many hunters who get as many antlerless tags as possible, and fill them. I feel that fourteen antlerless deer taken out of a small area by one group is a bit much, and that was just during rifle season. There isn't a deer left. Put that on top of the fact that the large public ground near us is used by everyone to get another doe. They will only shoot a buck on their land but head to the public area to get the antlerless tags filled. Leaves our family with no deer around. We own a nice size piece of land and try to manage it very well, but it is fruitless when everyone around us, who don't own squat for land, are harvest deer like they are going out of style. You don't have to decide if you want to harvest a buck or a doe, because there aren't any of either one. In 40 years of hunting deer in the same area, I can say that it is declining. We need to take a good hard look at management practices from a sensible point. Many hunters today are not cut from the same cloth as those of us that were raised to manage our herd ourselves. If the current strategy is to eliminate the deer population, it's working. While there may be areas in the County and State where there is an abundance, or possibly an overabundance of deer, that area is not here for sure. More bears to take fawns, increased numbers of wolves and greedy hunters will raise havoc on the whitetail herd in a short time. We are seeing it in our backyard and can't do a thing about it. I just don't feel that the antlerless quota system is working and would like to see a change.
- 16802 I see the antlerless only Holiday Hunt doesn't look as likely to happen this year. I like that. However, if for some reason it does or ever does occur again in the near future I suggest allowing bow hunters to continue hunting for bucks during that period. Late season can be one of the best times of the entire season to kill a nice buck. Cold weather in particular that is often associated with the last few weeks of our state's bow season can make or break a season when trying to target certain deer. When that weather finally arrived last season bowhunters weren't allowed to hunt for bucks. For me personally that meant I was done hunting as I had no interest in the antlerless only Holiday Hunt. At least let bowhunters wear orange and continue their hunt. On another note, I'd be interested in at least getting talks going of the possibility of a late muzzleloader season. Our current muzzleloader season following our regular gun season makes little sense. The deer are pressured more during gun season than any other time of year and trying to find one with the muzzleloader immediately following gun season is extremely difficult. I suggest removing the current muzzleloader season and setting it during the last week or two of bow season in conjunction WITH bow season. I feel muzzleloader hunters would find more success and I believe it would appeal to more people to actually want to try muzzleloader hunting in Wisconsin. The current muzzleloader season isn't even a thought for many hunters in our state.
- 16803 I support the addition of a holiday hunt in conjunction with a significant decrease in the number of antlerless tags issued with each license (should be limited to only one antlerless, not two antlerless tags), a reduction in the number of Bonus antlerless tags for private land by one-third, and a doubling of Bonus antlerless tags for public land. In recent years, the DNR has been engaged in a project to dramatically alter the habitat of game animals across the State, including Polk County. This has been particularly disruptive of deer population and behavior patterns in Polk County. I've hunted here for over thirty years, and could generally count on Polk County to produce a good quantity of quality deer. Some years are better than others, of course, but outside of these fluctuations, it has been generally reliable. Until the recent de-forestation efforts of the DNR. The rest of the County does not have the deer population and habitat issues of the Polk County barrens. Quite the opposite. Farmland cut up by small forests has produced great quantities of healthy deer in the past decades, but the DNR de-forestation program has eliminated these small forested patches between farmland areas, and thus eliminated the cover needed by the deer -- they've all but disappeared in the southern half of the county over the past two years as a result. The northern barrens and central/southern farmland areas are now two entirely different habitats in Polk County, and require separate management programs.



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- 16804 We have 4 people that hunt our private property, 2 of which pay out of state license fees (native to Wisconsin). Out of state hunters are great for the economy of Wisconsin. Seeing deer is just as critical as shooting deer. Seeing mature bucks is the primary goal. We do shoot does for herd control, but do not shoot immature bucks. My concern is the advantage that crossbow hunters have to take the largest deer prior to the gun season. They are allowed to hunt the most mature bucks during the time of year when those bucks are most susceptible. I would prefer that crossbow hunting be limited to handicap hunters only. I feel the accuracy and use of these weapons nearly parallels the use of handguns and rifles like muzzle loaders. Harvest numbers for crossbow hunters vs bow hunters show that hunters are switching to a weapon offering bigger advantages. These hunters are switching to improve the harvest of big bucks more so than for effective management of the deer herd. I suggest considering a handgun or handgun only season or allow a handgun be used whenever crossbow hunting is allowed. Give the non-bow hunter the same opportunity and advantage that crossbow hunters have by allowing handguns during the same hunt. I would also offer the idea of un-scoped muzzle loaders might be added to this season as well.
- 16805 I have hunted this unit on my home farm which I own 40 acres of wooded and field land for 58 years. The land around my acres is farmed and hunted the same as it was save for a few deer drives. Over the past 10 years the deer population has steadily declined. I have seen fewer and fewer deer during the archery and gun seasons each year. Farming practices have remained constant during that time. I feel that giving 2 antlerless tags with every license is wrong along with the huge amount of bonus tags available. I am not a hunter that needs to harvest a deer every year, but I would like to see some deer during the hunt. I hunt every day of the season. Last year I was in the woods for 90 hours and saw 3 deer and heard very few shots locally. My biggest concern is with how the county is being managed. The west and northern part of Polk county is totally different than the south. There is much more wooded land and less farm land in the north than the south. How can you manage the north the same? I will be 70 years old this season and have seen the highs and lows, 80 deer on and opening weekend or 0 deer on and opening weekend. lately it is more the latter. It is very hard to stay interested in deer hunting when you see nothing.
- 16806 public land in polk county is in need of restoration of the herd. after hunting for 50 years i have seen a severe decline in the deer population. we need to have either no extra doe tags(to increase the herd) for a short number of years, or just except that future generations will have a terrible hunting experience (resulting in less hunters and less revenue for the dnr). numbers for public land in polk have shown success rates, but remember we are very close to minnesota, and those hunters want to show a good result for what they pay (even fawns are fair game). to summarize, i would say that private land is exclusive to those owners, and their friends and family, which may result in different numbers of what the cdac wants (they themselves (the landowners) are their own cdac-(they tell each other if they will or won't pass on does-when they see large numbers of deer they shoot does, and when they don't see as many they pass) vs. public land where non-land owners hunt hard for anything.
- 16807 I have hunted the same area for the past 30 years. Each year I have seen less and less deer. The 2017 gun season was the worst season I have ever had. During the 2017 gun season I hunted from legal starting time to legal closing time every day. I hunted almost every day of the 2017 bow season. During the bow season I saw one buck and was able to shot it. Without that buck I would have seen a total of 15 deer through the entire bow season. During the 2017 gun season I did not see any deer. We need to get rid of the October youth hunt and combine muzzle loader with gun season. We have too many seasons,too many predators for the whitetail deer to survive. If this continues my family will stop hunting. It costs enough as it is, but to spend all this money on a bow, tag, and a gun tag and then to see no or few deer is not worth it.



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- 16808 I would like to see Polk county go to 2 tags per license. Meaning each hunting license would allow for the harvest of one buck and one doe. An individual who bow hunts and also rifle hunts could then have the possibility of killing 4 deer during the entire season. I also believe we need to do away with the Holiday hunt and if possible the doe only season. I do not believe we have the deer population numbers to continue to support all of the extra hunting seasons. I run trail cameras most of the year on different properties and spend a lot of time during the summer and fall months observing and hunting deer. In my opinion the numbers are not there to continue to support all the extra herd control tags and various other special hunts that have been setup. Thank you for your time.
- 16809 Concerning the crossbow discussion. Our group now wounds fewer deer that are not found due to bad compound shots. The crossbows are more accurate, resulting in fewer lost deer. This fact skews the kill ratio, but does not represent the complete picture of deer that are dying due to bow hunting in general. While crossbows have driven up the reported number of kills, the actual kill may not be that much higher. After 3 years of changing to crossbows, I would estimate a 70% recovery with compounds and so far, 100% recovery with crossbows. The idea that we can now shoot farther is bunk; We do would not shoot beyond about 30 years from a practical standpoint; deer jump the sound of the bow!
- 16810 The deer numbers have just gotten worse and worse yet Wisconsin is constantly looking for ways to kill more. I've hunted there since I turned 12 but I would have been done coming back several years ago if it wasn't for it being family tradition. Between number of tags, wolves, coyotes, and bears, there isn't any chance of it getting better unless they lower deer tags, raise the number of tags for bear and get the wolves removed. There's a reason our ancestors removed them all. I don't see any reason why Wisconsin can't be just as good or better than Iowa. Learn from them! Whitetail is the number 1 sought after animal for hunters, why does it seem Wisconsin is trying to remove them?
- 16811 Thank you for the option to comment on the deer season hunting structure. I urge you to reconsider not offering the holiday hunt. This was a great opportunity I took advantage of last year and hunted during the Christmas break with both family and friends. Regarding the concern of snowmobiles not being able to use the trails, I have been told that maybe one in 15 years, the trails have the possibility of being open during this time frame. And the few hunters that chose to hunt and snowmobile trail users should be able to co exist during this time period. In closing I again urge you to allow hunters the opportunity to hunt during the Holiday hunt.
- 16812 I have hunted public land near McKenzie Creek in northern Polk County for 50 years. Those of you that have hunted this area know how beautiful it is. The reduced deer population in this area has caused me to hunt private land mostly instead. Too many doe permits have been given out over the years. Some neighboring counties didn't have any antlerless permits available last year so they go to Polk County public land. Also the increase in bear and wolf population recently has been hard on deer population. I would like to introduce my grandchildren to hunting this beautiful land but it will be hard to keep them interested when you don't see any deer.
- 16813 I am glad polk Cty declined the holiday hunt I am part of the polk cty Snowmobile council now we do not have worry about closing our 380 miles of snowmobile trails for a stupid holiday hunt where I live in polk cty deer numbers have been falling for several years and all the neighbors say the same thing as for what they see during deer season I spend a lot of nights sitting in a tree bow hunting and alot of nights never see anything and I have neighbors who get ag tags but will not rent land unless they get ag tags with the land because it is extra money in there pocket from the dnr and still plant food plots to help bring the deer in
- 16814 Please make deer farms and deer breeders of all types totally illegal as soon as possible. The argument that they are a small business and contributing to the local economy is far outweighed by the value of hunting to the local economy and threatens the way of life we love here in Wisconsin. Also please enact and aggressively enforce statewide deer baiting and feeding bans. Once CWD is here it can't be undone. The average hunter and citizen does not understand the disease but you do and you must act! Thank you to the CDAC for the work you do, and thanks for allowing me a chance to comment.



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- 16815 I would like to bring up the idea of the DNR wiping out more and more of OUR public hunting lands, leaving them treeless and cover less. Every time this happens it forces more hunters on less land which leads to way too many ppl in a small area. Not only is this unsafe, it also pushes what few deer we do have off of those lands and gives them less cover to hide from the orange army. I'm not sure what the reasoning is for clear cutting so much of our natural resources, but for me and my hunting buddies it's getting ridiculous.
- 16816 An antlerless only season would benefit Polk County deer populations greatly. In recent years of scouting, my family has seen an influx of doe's on private and public land. Hunters in our area hunt primarily for the freezer, but also many only go out to shoot a buck. It's a rarity to see a mature buck in the area and we need them just as much as we need a good population of doe's. An antlerless only year may upset a lot of people, but the positive effects on the deer population will be felt for the next coming seasons.
- 16817 Each year I have seen less deer I believe that one doe tag is enough. The other problem is the bear population is way to high and needs to be reduced. I own land in a northern county that is half agi and woods. They are issuing to many doe tags based on the agi part and the people come to the public land in the north and have wiped out the deer. I didn't see a single deer last year. Please divided these counties!!! In checking this is a problem in all such counties state wide...
- 16818 I would like to see the DNR keep management of lands purchased with taxpayer/license money. Public/private partnerships, like Standing Cedars land conservancy, don't work well and create a patchwork of rules and regulations that are not beneficial. The deer population in Polk County is very low compared to recent years. It's hard to keep young hunters interested when they go days without seeing a deer. Please reduce doe tags to one per license. Thank you!
- 16819 With the lack of acorns for winter sustainability the last few years, we have seen a decrease in numbers and a strong concern for the health of the herd. This winter has left a us a long lasting snow layer that is really going to have a mortality impact in Polk County. These are variables that need to be considered at our County's CDAC. I'm glad to see people in the neighborhood showing restraint in their harvest because of these concerns.
- 16820 The deer this year during the gun season in polk county seemed less eager to move. I did not see any deer during the two days that I hunted during gun. I did see signs of deer moving during bow season and ended up tagging a buck. But he was the only deer I actually saw and he moved in to my area from a dog chasing him. I am hoping that this year more deer will move through the area I hunt due to possible better weather and land management.
- 16821 The public to private pressure/population is tipping and now is the time to cut down antlerless tags to ONE. Two is far too many for public land. I watched as Eau Claire county made the same mistake in the early 2000's. Too slow to cut down the public land tags, predators and bad winters decimated the herd. Now the quota for Eau Claire county for several years is 0. Cut the harvest of antlerless deer now before it is too late.
- 16822 The public land in our northwest corner of our dmu #10 should be included in burnetts northern forest zone...the 3 to 4 miles south of burnett county line along st croix river has been overharvested because of no burnett tags and everybody with a polk doe tag saturating/driving repeatedly the public area. It was my favorite area until numbers decreased to a point of frustration...used to be great till it was decimated.
- 16823 The last 5 years our hunting group which totals 8, have seen very little deer. Last year I saw 1.. I hunted for 4 days...2016 I saw 1.. to many antlerless tags, for far to long..Giving each hunter that buys a license 2, antlerless tags is way over the top..Hunters want to see deer, have a chance..have a good experience. Who needs to shoot 2 doe and a buck? Glad to see the quota in this unit reduced..good start.
- 16824 I saw the same doe and 2 button bucks all season and 5 difrent bucks ..the state needs to quit giving out the free doe tags and selling the excessive amounts of for tags . The large amounts are only on slect property's ..due to seeing the lack of deer bow season I did not purchase a gun license and I plan on NOT purchasing in 2018 as well ..I refuse to shoot a doe I do not see enough to warent it ..



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- 16825 The quotas need to reflect this year's very delayed spring. The mortality of deer and other wildlife will be negatively affected. We have seen dead deer in our woods due to starvation. Fawn numbers will be down significantly as well. We must be proactive to limit herd harvest this coming season in order to have reasonable numbers for the following season and years to come.
- 16826 The number of deer in the southern part of Polk county has drastically reduced in the last seven years. I hunt a few farms in the East Farmington, Osceola, and Clear Lake areas and have seen the herd become more and more depleted each year. Please issue one antlerless tag per hunter total (not per season) and do not sell any antlerless bonus tags. Thank you.
- 16827 Having an additional Hunting season is dangerous, I'm sorry the November rifle season is long enough we had guys trespassing, trying to drive deer out of everyone's back yards without asking, trying to fill all there doe tags, wounding little does. Last year was scary for me because I had to confront a large group of guys carrying guns. I might quit hunting.
- 16828 the deer quota numbers should be reduced due to the increase in the winter severity into April 2018. The snow depth and cold will negatively affect all deer and will reduce the fawn population. The quota should reflect the goal to increase population since the weather/nature will increase the deer mortality compared to the late Spring of 2013.
- 16829 There are very few deer left in the Barrens area. I have hunted my entire life there with 2017 being the poorest year of all. I saw one doe all season. I would like the public area of this unit to reduce doe tags to one free tag or none. Also no buying of bonus tags. This area should truly go one season with no doe tags period.
- 16830 The late spring of 2018 will have a negative effect on the success of fawning and needs to be taken into consideration. The quota for the unit has been too high for too long. The public land is overharvested. With the bad winter; it will crash with the same quota. Reduce the quota to 1 tag per license. Thank you.
- 16831 This is my first time doing this survey and I just want to say that the number of deer that I have seen in the last 5-6 years has been pretty saddening. There just aren't nearly the amount of deer in the woods as there were 10 years ago, no matter what your charts may say. I just hope that my input may help a little bit.
- 16832 I believe the holiday hunt takes away from the bowhunters chance at harvesting a deer. Especially a good buck! The reason I say this is we pattern deer all year long and the easiest time to pin point your shooter buck is in the last part of December and early November. Please repeal the holiday hunt! Thank you!
- 16833 Most complaints about deer quotas and deer sighting seem to continue to come from the pine barrens in the NW corner of the county. If there was anyway to break this area off into Northern Forest and manage separately from the rest of the county, it would benefit everyone and makes many things much easier.
- 16834 I seen more bucks then doe ..they need to quit handing out free tags and cut bonus sales ..the high deer populations are only where the big corn piles are I didn't but a gun license due to the lack of deer seen bow season and plan on not buying one in 2018 as well
- 16835 The antlerless quota is too low but it appears the ability of hunters to harvest antlerless deer has reached the saturation point. I have concerns about forest regeneration and deer vehicle collisions. The population objective should have been decrease.
- 16836 Keep the Holiday Hunt!!! Keep 2 free tags/license! Both are needed to control deer numbers. I can't get an oak to grow because of the high deer density. Also, we are a CWD affected county. Pass a county resolution to ban deer baiting and feeding!
- 16837 After seeing 12 or fewer deer throughout the entire season for the past 10+ years I have no confidence in the deer advisory councils or the state to bring deer hunting back to the high it was in the 90s.



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- 16838 I think we should keep our roadway ditches mowed as wide as possible at all times so you can see the deer in the ditches rather when they have already stepped on the road which on a couple of seconds.
- 16839 A combination of predators and the issuance of too many antlerless permits/bonus tags have reduced the deer population to a fraction of what it was 25-30 years ago! Especially in the Behrens area.
- 16840 I would like to see a minimum antler count for bucks. Like in the western states. Start with a minimum of fork. It drives me crazy seeing all the fawns and spike bucks getting killed.
- 16841 Not enough deer. Too many antlerless tags!! Bring bag option to send in for a antlerless tag. DO NOT GIVE THEM AWAY FOR FREE!! Increase cost of additional tags 10X
- 16842 I think the county should split the county between central farm land and northern forest with the cut off being every thing west of the river should be forest land
- 16843 Did not fill one tag at all in all seasons due to lack of seeing deer very few deer seen the whole season and put a lot of time in hunting this last year
- 16844 Seems to be a few deer around with does having fawns year after year . Coyotes and wolf kills a concerning problem seems getting higher .
- 16845 Please preserve the Crossbow Archery Season as is. Do not modify the Crossbow season dates to be different from the Bow Archery Season.
- 16846 Very few deer seen for all the time in the woods to many antler less deer taken need to build up the deer heard
- 16847 Concerned about the rising predator population . More deer killed especially on the fawns .
- 16848 Only offer 1 bonus tag. Our deer population is finally good. Don't over do it.
- 16849 More does available than needed. Like extending the bow season through Jan.
- 16850 Do something about the large population of wolves.
- 16851 Maybe try antler point restrictions
- 18061



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Portage, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

95 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 52
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 13
I hunt in this unit: 74
General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 71
Bow: 42
Crossbow: 24
Muzzleloader: 29

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 23.05
Maximum: 52

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 58
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 2
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 17
Fewer: 26
Same: 37
More: 10
Many More: 1
Unsure: 4

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	7	11	41	22	10	1



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	15	31	22	20	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	7	34	15	20	13
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	17	49	24	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	20	60	12
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	34	48	9
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	12	74	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.54
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.85
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.48
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.71
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.23
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.01
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.27
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.36
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.33
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.07
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.50



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Portage, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16852 I believe strongly that the quality of the experience in deer hunting has diminished extensively over the last 10 years. There is just not the same number of deer anymore in our area! I believe a large reason for this is a combination of reasons. - First, the WDNR provides the ability for a person to get "too many" tags. While our hunting family/party harvests what we can realistically eat/consume. We have neighbors that have shot deer for the simple sport of it, because they can get a bunch of tags. We are aware of one family taking 21 deer last year, and one three person family took 8 deer. - Second, the allowance of cross bows to everyone has put deer at a significant disadvantage during a time when they are most vulnerable. Get rid of Cross bows, unless there is an age factor or medical factor! - Get rid of the holiday hunt! It is ultra confusing, and allows for people to hunt concentrated deer and kill a bunch of deer in a short amount of time. I use to enjoy my time in the woods because I would always see a few deer. This past gun season, I saw a total of 3 deer in the center part of the state that is supposed to have "lots of deer"! My son has decided to no longer hunt because he doesn't see deer and got bored. After two years of convincing him to keep hunting, he no longer is willing to hunt because he has not seen a deer. If you want/need younger hunters to come into the sport, then start managing the population so that younger hunters "see deer"!

16853 If the DNR truly is concerned about disease in the wild deer then why not ask is public what our opinion is on captive herds? I would wager that a majority of citizens would vote to completely eliminate all captive deer and elk enclosures. Biologists suspect that chronic wasting was likely introduced to the wild population through these vectors. Many of the high fence operations harbor and spread these diseases. Very recently the DNR allowed the further spread of chronic wasting to another newly licensed game farm. How can the public in this formerly chronic wasting free zone trust the state anymore? Here in Portage County we have enclosures with CWD that have had their fences cut. Since the prions can live indefinitely in the soil, the land becomes dangerous to the herd permanently. Even if we eliminate the enclosures, we still will need to keep deer out of these areas. Consider it please.

16854 In my opinion there are too many antlerless tags issued. I have witnessed greedy hunters shooting every deer they see even though they do not utilize all the meat. It is like a competition to them to see how many deer they can shoot. What happens then is there are neighbors who do not get a lot of time to hunt and end up not shooting anything because the greedy neighbor has either spooked them away with too much pressure or has pretty much wiped the deer in the area out. I would like to see the free tags given with each purchased license go away. Charge a fee for all antlerless tags for at least \$10.00. A lot of the greedy hunters are too cheap to pay the \$10.00 for the antlerless tag where the hunter who will utilize the meat would be willing to pay the fee.

16855 Portage County needs to implement a 3 year bucks only harvest (no antlerless harvest similar to Vilas county). This will allow the herd to get back to a normal level and a reasonable chance to at least see a deer during the nine day gun season. I hunt private land west of Stevens Point off highway 66 (old highway P). I hunt all nine days of the gun season and have seen just one deer in the past three seasons. If this trend continues, I will most likely stop hunting and purchasing the Conservation Patrons license. I was looking forward to taking my grandson hunting but that is not going to happen.

16856 I live close to the border of Portage County. I don't understand why baiting is legal across the street, but not on my property. Doesn't seem fair to have a neighbor attract all the deer away from my land. Doesn't seem like there is enough deer to go around. Hunting used to sound like WW3 going on, now I'm lucky to count 5 shots a day. I think Portage and surrounding counties should try to get more deer around, rather than maintain or reduce. Rifle season should be moved up in the calendar, gets too cold too fast. Deer don't move around.



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- 16857 So far the winterkill on our farm has been non-existent this winter, which usually isn't the case. I think there will be more deer in the coming year, and I question why we would lower the quota and provide fewer opportunities to harvest antlerless deer. I would love to receive two antlerless tags with a license and not have to hope to buy more tags in order to do a decent job managing our deer herd. Last year I traveled to other counties to take does since I wasn't able to get enough deer in Portage County due to tag quotas being low.
- 16858 The deer heard is to low due to the over harvest in the past years and the introduction of the wolfs. What was a great resource for the welfare of the people has gone by the way side. The yonder people coming into the hunting thing are discouraged due to the lack of deer. Kids need to see some deer to keep them interested, in the sport. If the DNR keeps up with the way they have been running there will be no hunters left. The die hard hunters are getting older and dyeing off and no one to replace them.
- 16859 After deer hunting in this area for 18 years, and sitting in a tree stand on average 300 hours a season, the deer numbers have diminished rapidly in the past 5 years. when you see as many predators as you do deer its not fun anymore. Having wolves take over our area has been very frustrating. the deer we do see while hunting are very pressured compared to there natural movements before the wolves came around. Please protect the number of antlerless deer taken and focus on predators!
- 16860 My father and I hunted the same private land for approximately last 27 years. Worst year we ever had. For the last few years the deer numbers seem to be declining. Now I'm trying to get my niece's involved in deer hunting. They are losing interest cause of the low deer sighting numbers. I also believe non residents should be paying more for deer license. Look at what these other states are charging. Thank you.
- 16861 I don't have any additional comments regarding my unit, but would like to say that this survey is a great tool to get information on our deer herd. So, my suggestion is, this needs to be advertised more intensely so more people hear about it. The only reason I know about this survey and about the cdac, is because I'm subscribed to the dnr newsletter. Thank you and keep up the good work
- 16862 I have resided in WI for 10 years since retiring and have yet to harvest a buck. Private land access is difficult to obtain for an "outsider". Any rule changes that would improve my chances are welcome. (Yes, I have tried many means of improving my chances of access, friends, neighbors, farmer meetings, clubs but have met with little success)
- 16863 Please consider the issue of crossbows. The crossbow season should be reserved for those needing the use of a crossbow for medical or age reasons. Go back to the old rules related to crossbows. Opening them up to the general population is surely selling licenses, but it is adversely affecting deer hunting.
- 16864 NO MORE EXTRA TAGS TO CRANBERRY GROWERS,IT IS TERRIBLE THEY GET EXTRA TAGS FOR CROP DAMAGE I OWN 80 ACRES CLOSE TO A MARSH THAT WASNT THERE WHEN I BOUGHT USED TO SEE A LOT OF DEER NOW SEE VERY FEW,ENOUGH OF THEM KILLING SO MANY.LET MARSH OWNERS BUILD THEIR OWN FENCES WITH THEIR MONEY
- 16865 grew up on this property and watched the deer population grow to its peak then seen a sharp decline in the herd due to ag tags and bonus tags, the population is finally grown enough where we are seeing a healthy deer population and seeing deer during the hunting season
- 16866 I would oppose shortening the crossbow season from the existing archery season,I have an injured shoulder and can now longer shoot my compound bow after over 30 years of bow-hunting and would not want to have my ability to hunt be impacted.
- 16867 I've hunted each year in Zone 2 farmland on our land for many years. Definitely seeing fewer deer last few years, have been seeing 0-2 deer over the 10 day season. I think selling fewer bonus tags is appropriate response.
- 16868 You need to do something about allowing the shooting of the white deer. They are taking over in my area. It is not uncommon to see a brown doe with 2 white fawns. The only bucks I saw during rifle season were white.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 16869 I can honestly say its been a steady decline of deer in my area over the last 10yrs I don't expect to see or have an opportunity to harvest one every time I go out bowhunting but things have definitely changed
- 16870 Ive noticed the signs of wolves.And i have heard wolves while deer hunting and while just checking the area out to hunt ,I have heard them.I think there is a real problem with wolves killing & eating the deer.
- 16871 There are areas where there is an very high deer density. These high density neighborhoods don't reflect the entire density of the county, but the population needs to be lowered in these specific areas.
- 16872 time to bring form of visable hunter id back due to amount of trespassing pass season. No way to turn in those who do not respect landowners right to hunt own property.
- 16873 Instead of antlerless only seasons, earn-a-buck would be a better option. Give hunters option of using doe from previous year, so as not to disrupt early buck hunts.
- 16874 Major concern harvest number continue to decline over the past years. Why does the estimated deer harvest number show increases and harvest number still decline?
- 16875 To maintain or increase deer population we must discontinue killing off the Doe population and protect the herd for future recreation and successful hunting
- 16876 Need to manage wolves, have seen an increase of wolves in Portage Co. the past 2 years and that is increasing their kill of deer in Portage Co.
- 16877 Less wolves, more deer, we also need to financially help dairy farmers with the loss of young stock by wolves
- 16878 Maintain status for crossbow season length to give everyone a chance to harvest a buck at peak rut.
- 16879 Tag number seem high to MAINTAIN deer population. Not seeing as many deer as before.
- 16880 Public land markers were to be maintained by fisheries in the Hemp area but have not!
- 16881 Please consider 1 buck tag per hunter per season
- 16882 Open deer baiting in portage county
- 18062



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Price, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

142 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

- I live in this unit: 55
- I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 29
- I hunt in this unit: 130
- General interest in this unit: 32

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

- Gun: 123
- Bow: 76
- Crossbow: 52
- Muzzleloader: 54

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

- Minimum: 1
- Average: 26.85
- Maximum: 65

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

- Exclusively Private Land: 44
- Mostly Private Land: 19
- Public and Private Land About Equally: 38
- Mostly Public Land: 15
- Exclusively Public Land: 13
- I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

- Not at all Crowded: 2
- Not too crowded: 14
- Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 17
- Somewhat crowded: 21
- Very crowded: 27
- Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

- Many Fewer: 18
- Fewer: 30
- Same: 47
- More: 32
- Many More: 13
- Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	4	4	29	36	66	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	5	28	32	74	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	4	25	38	69	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	15	120	7
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	66	66	10

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.21
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.69
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.12
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.36
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.19
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.16
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.25
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.14
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.55
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.51
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.33



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Price, Northern Forest

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16883 We live in the northern part of Price County. 20 years ago we would feed over 50 deer in the winter and would both harvest a buck during gun season and he would harvest a buck with his bow. Since then, I have quit hunting because I do not feel there are enough deer in our area. For the first time, this past year my husband did not even harvest a deer with the gun, bow, or muzzleloader. We also have continued to legally feed in our yard, but we have not had more than 10 deer in years. The DNR has issued to many tags over the past 20 years and now that the county has management, they too have issued too many antlerless tags! Please remember that Price County is not all big farm country. The forest with the wolves, bear, and coyotes is far less populated with deer than the southern part of the county. If the antlerless deer are overharvested, who is going to give birth to the fawns? I would like for my son to grow up with a deer hunting background like we did, but that won't happen with the state of the deer herd in northern Price County. He doesn't want to hunt here due to the lack of deer population. Since he passed hunter's safety 2 years ago, he has only hunted near Lake Winnebago on his uncles land, as they have a larger deer population and being able to harvest a doe and buck instilled confidence in his own hunting abilities as opposed to sitting here for days and not seeing anything. And we do spend our fair share of time in the woods for the many hunting seasons available (bear, deer, grouse, turkey), so we do see what is going on in the woods.

16884 The deer we got 2017 were fat. The winter we had was mild. The vegetation is chewed. The houseplants finally fenced against the corn rats and the fawns still got in. You could think of a "Hunter's Choice" season license. This lets the die-hard trophy hunter who does not kill very many deer "stick to his guns" and choose according to this dusty idea, while those of us that like a yearling to eat can make that choice, kids take direction. I started hunting in Price County in 1962 because there were not many deer in Clark or Chippewa Co. Since that time, I noticed the reduction of hunters on the same Price public land, little or no driving gangs anymore (they were always welcome as they helped move deer to me) and it has been four years since I saw a hunter I did not know by name during gun season. The wife owns the Price Co. farm and we live there a lot. When not overcooked, venison is best. Price county has way more deer than people and not enough hunters. Baiters and feeders we got, just not enough hunters. Legal kill permission keeps it legal. I wonder if easier bonus tags can actually control herd numbers or if the deer will just chew the browse until they have no food at all when it snows. Collecting a hatfull of browse is quite a job and a deer has to be able to do that in competition with other deer. Too many deer is a damaged forest for browsing.

16885 Lack of control of the Wolf packs have decimated the deer herd. I've witnessed wolves chasing deer each of the past 5 years during bow season during daylight hours. I'm now forced to carry a side arm for protection while hunting. Allowing a youth hunt for Does is insane when trying to rebuild the herd. Offer the youth hunt on private land only! I was blessed that a couple of local farmers, years ago, shared tags with my children, out of traditional season, so I could safely teach them gun safety, hunting skills like scouting, tracking, use of a compass, field dressing. I feel we should offer a financial incentive for private landowners to open their lands to the youth only! Last year, 2018, was the best I've seen on camera for 5 years. I caught several 2-3 year old young bucks on camera, more than previous years. However, the doe numbers on camera were way too low. Saw a lot of yearling does & nubbin bucks on camera. Potential? Address the predator population now! With the potential CWD next door in Lincoln county at a minimum, eliminate baiting during gun season. This will make the opening weekend dump bait, shoot something quick hunters go someplace else. The goal should be to build the herd size not maintain. With a small herd size, like now, one bad winter? You won't have a deer herd left to hunt. Limit doe tags to 800.



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- 16886 I am a female hunter that started when she was 12 years old. When I first started I saw atleast 1 doe every time I sat. My dad and I sat all day opening weekend, both days, for the first 5 years I hunted. Once my brother started hunting our question of " how many deer did you see" changed to "did you see any deer". Once my even younger brother started hunting 4 years ago we would switch stands if one of us had a doe that was hanging around so everyone could atleast see a deer. I am all for allowing youth hunters the opportunity to shoot a doe or fawn, however, I do not think adult hunters need to shoot so many does. Let the kids hunt and gain the love for hunting as I did with my dad, but don't let everyone go out and slaughter the population. Maybe within the next 10 years we can have a doe hunt, but for now let's build up the population more. My husband is a dairy farmer so I know what deer can do to farm land, but farmers can get crop damage tags to help with their problems. With the wolf and coyote population being strong up north, they take care of enough deer to help maintain. Someday when I have kids and they are old enough to hunt I want to be able to ask them, "how many deer did you see?"
- 16887 I did not write down numbers on the previous page but your math is HIGHLY flawed. Roughly 1302 Antlerless Deer were killed in 2017 and the quota was 1000. That is roughly 33% over quota! In order to kill those 1000 you issued roughly 2425 Antlerless tags which resulted in an over kill of 302 Antlerless deer, roughly 33% over goal. In 2018, you now want to issue roughly 6250 Antlerless deer tags to kill 2500 Antlerless deer, what is wrong with this picture? Again, we are NOT managing anything, we are simply guessing. Based on 2017 over harvest of 33%, I would project an extreme over harvest in 2018! If 2425 tags killed 1300 Antlerless deer and you want to now kill 2500 Antlerless deer, you should have simply doubled your tags roughly. That would be 4850 tags NOT 6250! Based on 6250 tags you will be over goal exponentially resulting in a declining herd! Now, we have had 13 inches of snow since March 31st in addition to what was already on the ground. Winter is a full month longer this year. You are setting quotas prior to winter even being over.
- 16888 Estimated deer herd going into this fall IS 35,000 for Price county which is 27 deer per square mile. This does not take into surface water area which would make this number even higher. With March and April weather the deer severity index is well into the severe index. so the anterless quotas should be adjusted. I believe that your estimated deer projection numbers are not accurate. Deer density numbers in the southern portions of the county are high, but on public land deer numbers are not there. Why don't your biologists talk to the loggers who have an active logging job on public land in late February. I guarantee that the amount of deer on-site will not be that high. Deer travel a long way to an available food source in late winter, so this should be an indicator of the herd size. Nature has a way of correcting itself. I would hope that the antlerless tag availability be revised, considering the current weather pattern, otherwise the deer herd may be compromised. If it's not, then it's all about the money!
- 16889 Over the last 5 years the deer population and herd has been decimated by harsh long late winters involving numerous rain/freezing events that have severely hindered deer survival until green up, this year is no exception with the late and heavy snow falls and significant ice on lakes and streams. Along with the predator activity of both wolf and coyote based on tracks, sound and sightings by allowing any significant harvest of antlerless deer will continue to decrease my desire to continue to support the DNR and state of WI by purchasing future licenses. While I realize the current revenue isn't being generated by the tags being sold in price county on a pro-rata bases I feel it would not be in the best interests to continue to decrease the already reduced herd numbers. By harvest of antlerless deer you will continue to keep numbers too low and thereby not provide the hunting experience in price county for which one should reasonably expect when purchasing licenses.



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- 16890 My family, including myself, hunt in the NW part of Price county during the gun deer season. Wolves are too numerous in this area of the county and are having a very negative impact on the deer population. Until the State of Wisconsin regains control of managing the wolf population, harvesting antlerless deer at the very high quota you're recommending will be too detrimental to the deer herd. As I suggested to the Price county CDAC chairman a few years ago, divide the county into 2 separate units (north and south). He indicated there were quite a few deer in the southern portion of the county which therefore could allow for a moderate antlerless harvest, but we do not believe the same is true for the NW section where we hunt. When hunters see more wolf sign than deer sign, it's a problem. Let's give the deer herd a chance to recover: Thanks!
- 16891 Deer populations have plummeted starting about 10 years ago and only just started to recover last year after a mild winter and several years of reduced antlerless tags. This winter's snowfall levels are setting up the possibility of significantly reducing the herd through natural causes. We need to be proactive to protect the herd. Hence I recommend no antlerless tags for 2018. This is based on several factors; we don't yet know what impact last year's increase in antlerless tags will have on the population; we don't know how the herd will be impacted by this year's record snowfall; and we don't know if the electronic registration data is accurate (some studies have indicated only 60% of deer are now being registered which would result in a significant over-prediction of the herd numbers using the WDNR models). Thank You for your consideration.
- 16892 The spike in antlerless tag numbers makes literally 0 sense. Use facts. Deer kill numbers the last 3 to 4 years were down considerably. That has been the trend since 2010. We have not yet recovered from the winters of 2013 and 2014. That is a fact! The herd is very young. This past fall we have finally seen more fawns and more does. This had to happen in order to repopulate the herd. So the board now sees fit to increase these tags by 5 fold? What math are they using? Yes, you could increase the tags to offer hunters the opportunity to take a deer. The reality is the deer population is very spotty and no where near where it should be or any where near the carrying capacity of the land. This board serves no purpose if this is the direction they take. Same result as the old system. Poor management!
- 16893 This winter seems very similar to the winter of 2012-2013. This late snow is very similar, and after that winter the deer numbers were down significantly. The recruitment numbers were very poor that year as well. It may be worth reducing the harvest quota this year. A look back at what the deer numbers did then might be a good idea. A suggestion on the overall program would be to move these CDAC meetings back to May. I know that northern Wisconsin does not matter to the DNR, but many years winter is not over up here. The DNR tries to pawn all the blame of numbers and quotas on to the CDAC committees, but they set you as a CDAC committee up to fail by having these meetings before winter is complete. How are you supposed to make an informed choice when all the data is not in yet?
- 16894 I hunt in Price County on property that my uncle owns. I see deer all summer long and during the rut, then they somewhat disappear. I have two concerns... first, the wolf and coyote population, and second the speculation I have that locals are shooting deer year round regardless of licensing. I understand they want to put meat in the freezer, but they are hunting illegally. I don't think it's a coincidence that people target shoot as the sun goes down? When I see people in the north woods spending more money on a modern enclosed deer stand than they do the house they live in... it's pretty obvious they will use it for more than just the 9 day gun deer season. I'd like to see the DNR toughen up on violators and I'd also like to see the wolves eliminated from our forests.



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- 16895 While I support a maintain strategy for Price county, I am not in favor or the increased amount of antlerless tags proposed. While we have seen an increase in deer numbers over the past few seasons, I feel that the herd is still marginal/at-risk. One harsh winter and uncontrolled predator populations put the herd at constant risk and I feel warrant a more conservative approach to harvest. Slightly higher deer numbers and the ability to control predators(wolves) should be the milestones for triggering increase antlerless harvest numbers. While I realize that this is a deer forum, I feel that it is important to note that burgeoning bear numbers are also impacting the herd negatively and need a more aggressive approach to harvest/management.
- 16896 I feel the number of doe tags is way to high for the area of Price co. I live and hunt in. Last year we had some fawns in the spring, but by the end of summer we only seen does without fawns or maybe 2 does with one fawn. We should be taking in account for the last two snow storms that we got in the last week with amounted to another 18 inches of snow plus with what we have puts it over 2 ft in the woods. We won't see green up till the end of May. I feel we should stick with the same number tags as 2017 or find some way to just issue the tags in the southwest corner of the co. where there are deer. I don't see wolf tracks anymore nothing left to eat. On the logging jobs in our area we seen very few deer. Thanks for reading this.
- 16897 After the results of the last two years I am almost afraid to submit my comments. Two years ago nothing was done and last year the numbers of public land permits were decreased. I am still in awe as to why the public/private permit designation has not been done away with. Once again I will comment it appears the heard is in the process of being privatized. With a little over 40% of the unit open to the public, per matrix, I would think that would be used to split the number of permits for public and private land. Instead the proposal is for 80% going to private lands and that does not include the number of crop damage permits they get. It appears to me this is only a money issue not for the good of the herd or the public.
- 16898 if you are going to continue to allow deer farms then you should remove the CDW question, as the DNR is not really interested in controlling all aspects of overpopulation of deer or the spread of CWD. Last year was the first year in the last 7 that i actually saw a deer while gun hunting, and was the first year that our party of seven hunters have all seen deer in the last 7 years. There needs to be at least one more year of limited control or a better way to measure deer herds. Counties are vast tracts of land; public and private agricultural land mix of hunting lands are not equivalent and deer populations reflect that, give more rights to the land owners and farmers if they truly have crop damage
- 16899 Once again the council is hurting hunting in the northwoods. I hunt eastern price county on public and the hunting is terrible. No deer!!!. You obviously dont listen to hunters. Almost all of the comments are against maintaining herd as is and shooting more does. Maybe on private land. With predation and the winters thats controlling herd enough. The big forest can handle more deer. I live in waupaca county with tons of deer and not alot of woods. Im not sure anybody that sets these goals actually hunted years ago and now and could look me in the face and tell me hunting is the same then as it was then. Thanks for ruining another year of hunting!
- 16900 how can you manage the deer on public land when there is 5 per square mile .the area i hunt is mostly public big woods the deer are very nomadic but through winter coyote hunting i can say the deer numbers are still down considerably on the public land.there are many areas of private land that have good numbers of deer but if those land owners only want to harvest so many what can be done to curb those numbers. as a father of a nine year old i would like to have the availability to allow my son the experience and excitement of what deer hunting used to be.I fear those days may be long gone with the competition from predators and over harvest .
- 16901 Please stay in the range proposed for Price County. Every indicator points to the fact that the population has grown quickly in many areas. Using "old" hunting techniques have allowed me to encounter has many deer as in the "old" days, though I suspect massive baiting has affected diurnal habits in some areas. If you're in an area where you're not seeing deer, go somewhere else in the county. There are plenty of deer around if you're willing to go where the deer want to be. 50+ square miles of public land allow us all space to find the critters and can easily support the likely harvest in the quota as proposed. I vote yes.



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- 16902 I own 20 acres in southern Price county. The last several years with buck only seasons has helped the deer herd rebound. We are still not seeing as many deer or mature bucks as we did years ago but it will happen as long as the herd is allowed to grow. I think the number of antlerless tags should be restricted for a couple more years. Also refrain from issuing the unlimited antlerless tags the got us to the point where it was rare to even see a deer. I enjoy sitting outside my cabin through the entire year and watching all wildlife. I have seen bobcats, turkeys, eagles, coyotes cranes and even a wolf or two.
- 16903 I have hunted in price county for over 60 years. I have seen the population go up and down and so on. I still feel that we are not to a point to offer so many doe tags. It's not fun when your grandkids can't tell you stories about a bunch of deer like you tell them about the good ol days. I know there are other things to worry about but I strongly feel it's too soon to offer so many tags. I feel that the only reason anyone would want more doe tags is if you aren't from the area and only come up to kill deer. I come up here to watch them, see them, and enjoy them-not just to kill them.
- 16904 eliminate baiting and feeding of deer. this should have been done years ago. eliminate cross bows. it seriously compromises the integrity of the sport of bow hunting. if we keep watering down this sport no one will do it in the future. it already does not have the lore it once had. eliminate youth hunts. hunter numbers are declining.....its not working. quit pampering these kids and let them learn the right way.....during regular seasons in the elements. maybe then there would be some "depth" to their commitment. I feel the easier we make it the less merit it all has.
- 16905 I note that the proposed ratio between antlerless permits for private land to public land is an 80%-20% split for 2018 while the hunting land split is about 60%-40%. While the private land owner pays some taxes locally, I hunt with a group who owns real estate (a hunting shack) that pays real estate tax on full value but hunts exclusively on public land. I also spend money on accommodations, food and other supplies in Price County each year. I think the private land-public land antlerless ratio should be closer to the ratio of private/public hunting land.
- 16906 i would like to see a small increase of deer in the area because i think that there is still room for the deer pop. to grow in our area. i believe that the quotes are a touch high i believe that they should be lowered because we are having a slightly rougher winter which will decrease the fawn numbers this year i think and also give them a shorter time to grow during summer and fall which will then give them a harder time for them to grow. Give out this antler less tags. no need for it.
- 16907 In Price county it hard to have an antlerless plan that is applicable to the whole county. deer numbers are much less in the north (especially National forest) Deer numbers are better in the farm country in Southern Price county. All junior hunters on private lands in Price County deserve a chance to shoot an antlerless deer. People opposed to that are jealous, because they may not be able to. I can see doing away with all antlerless permits on public lands.
- 16908 I feel we have way too many deer hunting seasons. (mentor-youth, long bow season, muzzle loading season, antlerless hunt in December) We have way too many predators compared to years ago. Explosion of bears taking fawns in the spring. Way too many wolves and coyotes. Each year I hunted we heard more and more wolves calling and tracks, and less and less deer tracks. Counties now to the south are experiencing, less deer now as wolves migrate south for more food.
- 16909 I support the recommendation of 8,500 antlerless tags (assuming a 35 percent hunter success rate) originally proposed by the WDNR Wildlife biologist. Council needs to more strongly consider negative deer impacts such as those highlighted in WDNR's "ecological landscapes" handbook. Endangered resources concerns are not adequately represented in the cdac's statewide. Council lacks representation of private land forestry and home garden/landscape interests.



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- 16910 This will be my 45th Opener in N Price. The deer have come back.....SOME..... since the low a few years ago, but not really enough to hunt does !!! I don't know why you even ask for input, you never listen anyway....sorry, that's the way people feel. Why do you think no one shows up at the meetings ? Hope this isn't considered a personal attack and is taken as meant to let you know where people actually are. Its not an easy task, thanks for your time.
- 16911 I've hunted in this county for 3 years since buying property in the area. In that time I've seen quiet a few doe but not a single buck during the gun hunting season. Since it has been buck only land I have not harvested a deer at all. I heard there were bonus antlerless tags available at one time but were sold out almost immediately. I didn't even know there was an opportunity to buy them until many weeks after it was all done.
- 16912 Overall the deer herd has been growing in southern price county. Private land is where it probably should be and can use a good die harvest. Public land is still low and only a few areas have much for deer. This winter has also had an effect with the deep snow and cold weeks. In the past three weeks I've found 7 starved deer and haven't been out a ton. Keep this in the back of your mind when giving out doe tags.
- 16913 We have way too many antlerless deer in Price County. Allow ample harvest. The public land quota is WAY too conservative. There are so many deer overbrowsing that the county and MFL landowners will see a decline in the quality of their forest. We have to do the right thing and allow harvest for those that want to. No one forces anyone to buy a tag, but make them available to those of us who want to harvest deer.
- 16914 Sitting in a tree in the dark waiting for daylight, doesn't matter what season, deer gun, youth special hunts, bow, crossbow, all of them.. How can the law allow duck hunters to sneak through the woods in the dark to some beaver ponds wearing camo with their faces painted.. For what reason are duck hunters exempt from blaze orange rulings? Open water duck hunting fine, In the woods in the dark is one stupid law.
- 16915 Doe to buck ratio is not anywhere close to where it should be. You guys should be looking out for the best interest for the deer. No doe tags should be allowed in price county PERIOD!!! Not even junior tags. The wolf's and bears have had such an impact on the deer population. If you guys at the dnr keep raising the antlerless quota there will be no deer to hunt for the future generations. USE YOUR HEADS!!!
- 16916 One concern at this time is the extended winter weather taking place now and perceivably up until fawns are normally born. Given the current conditions, it's possible that some pregnant Doe's may abort the fawns they carry or perhaps only one versus two. In respect of this and other factors, I believe the deer population will not increase naturally, thereby remaining at or below 2017 levels.
- 16917 I have seen a total of 6 deer in the last 10 years of hunting. I hunt all day for three and a half days. I also hear only a handful of shots fired in the area whereas years 10 years ago there were more shots than I could count. We also drive around while grouse hunting in late October and see a fraction of the deer we used to. I do not believe there should be any antlerless deer shot!!!
- 16918 After living and hunting in this county for over 50 years, I can state that a quota that may be valid for land south and west of Hwy 13, it would be too high for north and east of hwy 13. This used to be zones 20 & 30. In the past the quota/acre was vastly different in one zone vs the other. I think that you should revert to the older model with more zones.
- 16919 I think the winter severity is going to be higher than expected. We still have 24-30" of snow on the ground in the woods. (4-7-2018) We are still snowshoeing! The deer are running out of food. Also eliminate the YOUTH hunts and special antlerless hunts. Give everyone a fair chance in the Woods. It's about hunting not selling licenses. Thanks for listening.



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- 16920 I think the predation of deer by the wolf packs in the area are greatly affecting the herd in many areas around this region.. I put many many miles on hiking and scouting all over this area. Gona be awful tough to keep any sort of realistic management goal until we are again able to keep the wolf population in check and in some sort of realistic number.
- 16921 I have a Class "A" disability permit. I would like this year or in the near future to run the the disabled hunt like the youth hunt where-as you don't have to sign up a particular parcel of land to hunt and then find land to hunt on. It should be run the same as the youth. There needn't be all the hoops to jump thru. Thanks for listening.
- 16922 When the unit was buck only I saw a few does at times,but now that there was doe killing again, I saw three buck and no doe. all of archery and gun season. ..the deer numbers are not any were near numbers of six years ago. I used to see deer almost every time on stand. Now I can walk all over price county land and not even find tracks.
- 16923 Southern Price county and those areas within the county that have agriculture and private lands have many more deer per sq area than that of the public northern forest land. I would favor different quotas for private land ownership versus those hunters trying to find deer in federal managed land.
- 16924 My family owns 400 acres in the county and we aren't seeing many deer. Most of the tracts there are wolf and coyote. On our trails we have had 6 deer kills from wolf and coyote. There aren't many does in the county just by talking with other hunters and from experience we don't see any.
- 16925 The predator population is unwisely being handled. Management it cannot be called when bear populations are at all-time highs and wolves are all over the landscape. Due to this situation many no longer hunt the northern forest and some that do continue soley based upon tradition.
- 16926 The large number of predators, bear, wolf, and coyotes, play a large roll when it comes to managing our Price Co. deer herd!! I consistently have more bear and coyote pics on cameras than deer! Very few fawns are seen thru out year. Decrease in farming also plays a large roll.
- 16927 Hello; due to the late winter, lots of snow in april, poor food availability, I urge you to lower the proposed antlerless tags of 6250 to 5000 or less. Please take your job responsibly and listen to the sportsman, wanting to coment on this issue. thank you for your time.
- 16928 I feel crop damage tags should not be issued.and there should only be a few anterless tags issued.why should we make it easier for kids now to by giving them doe tags.should only be given to kids under 12.I grew up here and had to go by adult rules and I love to hunt.
- 16929 I have children that I will be takein hunting in the coming years and when it takes me 4 or 5 sits to see 1 or 2 deer it will be hard to keep my kids interested in hunting I feel the deer herd is depleted with winter kill and wolves so we cannot afford to shoot doe's
- 16930 With the late winter snow storms I am very worried about Winter deer severity regarding the deer heard and Doe tags for 2018.At the last DNR meeting the group agreed the deer are already stressed because they are eating tree bark already. Dan Palmer Brantwood WI.
- 16931 Would like to see the herd managed for more buck to doe ratio. Perhaps going with a change to the legal antlered deer regulation which would require a buck to have forked or even have three (3) or more points on one antler to be legal?
- 16932 Antlerless quota should be more generous if you truly are seeking to maintain the current population. You were probably told that at your meeting. You may lack the courage to do the correct thing, but that is now your job!
- 16933 I know there isn't much that can be done but I would bet there are a lot of people abusing the junior antlerless tags in the buck only counties. I support it for the honest people trying to get their kids their first deer.
- 16934 I would like to see some proposals to increase the quality of hunting. Unlimited buck hunting has all but eliminated any mature bucks. I would like to see one buck tag per hunter/yr and elimination of the baiting.



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- 16935 Due to the prolonged winter into April and deep snow I think the CDAC should reconsider the antlerless harvest especially on public lands. Probably more like 4000 antlerless tags for private and 500 for public.
- 16936 if deer numbers dont improve I will be selling my cabin and are deer camp of 10 including 2 15yr old hunters will no longer be hunting in the north. we did see more deer last year but thats up from 0 in 2016
- 16937 Need predator control to help increase the heard in the area. To many Wolves in the Northern Forest. Trapping and/or fair chase hunting need to be allowed. This will help increase deer population.
- 16938 Two topics, not enough bear tags and the wolf population is way over the number set. Time to stand up to the government and the politicians and judges from outside our State. Thanks David Punzel
- 16939 Deer baiting seems to move deer to other neighbors.....any chance of it ever being banned state wide? Seems to be less deer on public land, while bear hunting we encounter a lot of wolf sign.
- 16940 Due to possible deer mortality from heavy snows in late winter/early spring, my suggestion is to have no antlerless tags or antlerless bonus tags on public or private land this year.
- 16941 Leave the crossbow season the way it is. At least let the elderly and disabled hunt as usual with a crossbow. Youth hunt can be eliminated. We never had one and still loved to hunt.
- 16942 We do not need to shoot more does. The amount of deer I see with my family has greatly decreased, let's wait a few more years before we even think about doing something like this.
- 16943 THE DEER POPULATION IS STILL WAY DOWN IN PRICE COUNTY. WE HAVE WOLVES ON OUR LAND, AND THEY KILL SEVERAL DEER EVERY YEAR. WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE POPULATION GO UP.
- 16944 Challenges remain to address Northern Forest vs. Agriculture areas of Price county regarding management techniques. Doe density is higher in agricultural areas.
- 16945 Hunted 5 days during fun season and saw 1 deer .. we need to grow the deer numbers and control the predators. There should be no anterless harvest in this zone.
- 16946 You should give out a free doe tag for use on private land with each license because it seems the population is increasing on public land at too fast of a rate.
- 16947 Deer numbers are still way down from where they need to be. It does not make sense to issue so many antlerless tags when the deer population is so low.
- 16948 Manage the wolf population in price county. The wolves in price county are very small packs but seems to be a lot of them. They need to be managed.
- 16950 hunting party saw fewer deer after 2013 winter expecting same after this winter.the deer did seam as though they were coming back slowly.
- 16949 I would like to cut back on being able to harvest deer for most of the year. Also we would like to see the party.tag come back. Thank you
- 16951 Please outlaw baiting deer,have seen a big change in natural browsing.deer don't move like they used to, stay close to the corn piles
- 16952 I believe that private land owner hunters should be able to purchase multiple antlerless deer tags to hold down the herd numbers..
- 16953 Quota could be higher. It will be difficult to "maintain" the herd if you continue to shoot fewer antlerless than antlered deer.
- 16954 There's MANY areas that had good previus deer numbers and they have had zero tracks in them all of the past 3+ seasons.
- 16955 The Wolf population needs to be brought under control. A season needs to be reinstated now!



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16956 2 years ago i saw "0" deer during 9 day gun hunt. Last year i saw 1. What more can i say.

16957 at least three points on one side on order to harvest a buck.

16958 Need to greatly reduce the number of bear in Price county!

18063



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Racine, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

26 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 23
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 21
General interest in this unit: 5

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 18
Bow: 13
Crossbow: 7
Muzzleloader: 6

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.52
Maximum: 45

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 13
Mostly Private Land: 3
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 3
Fewer: 7
Same: 9
More: 6
Many More: 0
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	3	15	2	4	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	3	16	1	0	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	3	18	0	0	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	0	4	15	0	1	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	1	2	17	0	0	5

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	1	18	5	1
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	5	16	1	3

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	7	16	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	13	11	1
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.83
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.71
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.42
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.92
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.54
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.29
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.12
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	1.92
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.04
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.58
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.29



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Racine, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16959 While hunting in this unit since 1982 I have seen the deer population grow along with the number of hunters (and trespassers) until the late 1990's early 2000's where both deer and hunters started to decline. The increase in urban sprawl added to the issues previously brought up along with CWD and the eradication program of the DNR to severely reduce my desire to continue to hunt. I rarely see road killed deer and only hear sporadic gun shots on opening day that are far off in the distance. How is someone with a little money going to enjoy hunting or get their kids involved when they go seven or eight years in row and only see two deer. Hunting near home is the most I can afford and it seems that the way it is going in this unit I will soon save that amount of money and time and quit altogether.

16960 I support the goal to increase the deer numbers in Racine County. I do not however understand the reluctance to have a Holiday Hunt. For kids that go away to college or the military this is sometimes the only time they can hunt. For the kids that are younger and can't get off for the regular deer season this would be very convenient. If we are trying to recruit and keep young hunters not having a Holiday Hunt seems counter to that goal. I would imagine the historical kill during this hunt would be low and could be figured into the three year goal of increasing the herd. Please provide a reason why the committee is opposed to this hunting opportunity. Thank you.

16961 Hunted all over this state for the past 35 years and seeing and shooting deer has decreased significantly over the past 15-20 years. I haven't shot a deer in over 10 years with a rifle and stopped bow hunting all together now that you can only harvest a buck. It's hard enuff to even see a deer let alone get them in close enuff for a bow shot. Took my kid first time hunting 7 years ago and he still has yet to shoot a deer. I think the new hunters should keep thier either sex tag until they register anything because my kids 2nd year hunting he woulda got a doe!

16962 The Racine county CDAC has succeeded in its goal of increasing the deer population. I hunt two parts of the county and regularly drive though a large area I don't hunt, and I am seeing more deer everywhere. Although each piece of property is different, I have a hard time believing there are still large areas of the county without enough deer to give hunters a realistic opportunity for a harvest. With the deer population increased, the long term health of the deer herd should become the primary management goal.

16963 In regards to the free southern farmland antlerless tags issued when purchasing a license, CDAC's should have the ability to limit the availability of free private or public antlerless tags that would be available when purchasing a license. (Example) If the CDAC's goal is to increase the population on public land, they should have the ability to declare that "NO" free antlerless tags will be available for public land in their county.

16964 My land adjoins public hunting grounds, and my family owns 100+ acres in 1/2 mi away in another DMU. The current antlerless tag system is unfair to private land owners who are denied the ability to hunt on public lands our tax dollars support. Further more is is overly restrictive for individuals on the border of multiple DMUs. Please make the antler-less tags included with each license NOT DMU specific.

16965 I am against the motion/idea of shortening the crossbow season!! Just because someone is using a crossbow , doesn't mean they are shooting more deer , they are just making better shots , killing and recovering the ones they are shooting , instead of wounding a bunch of deer.

16966 I have had deer in my winter wheat field every night, since the snow cleared, eating it. As may as 11 at a time, in a 4 acre area. It is the only green vegetation in the area with the exception of pine needles.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

16967 in the metro unit you do not need to have a three week long season if there is not going to be any bonus tags
deer numbers are down significantly from several years ago

16968 Do not shorten the crossbow season

16969 The heard still needs to grow.

18064



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Richland, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

115 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 36
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
I hunt in this unit: 99
General interest in this unit: 21

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 94
Bow: 64
Crossbow: 30
Muzzleloader: 29

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 20.61
Maximum: 53

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 85
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 1
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 5
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 20
Fewer: 27
Same: 52
More: 11
Many More: 4
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	8	15	46	23	18	5



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	9	57	29	9	8
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	12	57	20	10	13
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	6	56	51	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	62	49	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	71	39	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	12	93	10
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.35
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.70
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.30
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.93
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.21
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.45
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.50
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.83
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.65
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.52



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Richland, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

16970 I have been hunting one of the largest tracts of privately held land in Richland county for over a decade. I am an avid bow hunter and rifle hunter. I spend well over 100 hours in the deer woods on stand each year observing these animals that I love and respect as wild game and a natural resource. Myself along with the rest of our hunting family recently experienced in 2017 possibly the worst seasons that we can remember (Deer sightings). We know this land very very well along with the deer population that lives on it. We know how they travel, where they feel safe and rest, and where and what they eat throughout the seasons. We selectively harvest our bucks and take approximately equal number of doe. That average is probably close to 20 deer per year from 1,890 Private acre's (800 wooded) all connected in one piece. We do not believe we are by any means over-harvesting this property, in fact quit the opposite. We also monitor and inventory the herd through trail cameras, implementing 8 trail cameras for over 7 months each year. We seen a drastic decline in our doe population over the 2016 and again in the 2017 season. The bottom line is we do not agree with the statistics that Richland County has a over population density, as our private property should be one of those core areas that do have a high deer density, but this has not been the case since about 2009. From that point forward we have been seeing fewer and fewer deer on the property each year and our hours on stand, sightings and harvest back that up... it is hard to sell that we need to give away 4 doe tags to every hunter when I personally hunted for 40+ hours with a rifle during the 9 day season and did not lay eyes on a doe at all to harvest. We are farmers and hunters that truly are stewards of the land that we walk each day. We know this country better than any warden or deer biologist. From our soil content to forage, habitat and tonnage per acre we truly are engaged in the land that we hunt. We personally think you got it all wrong somewhere along the lines.

16971 I have been a deer hunter (gun) in Wisconsin and Richland County for over 42 years and I still enjoy it. My concern is that if you try to force hunters to shoot antler less deer only for a 3 year season or even one year, I think you will have a lot of hunters either not hunting at all or going out and poaching a buck because I know I will not be forced to hunt antler less only for even 1 season. I do like the idea of having your buck tag and you receive 4 antler less tags for free. I have helped some needy families before when they need some meat but, I can't hunt on the land I always have if we have to shoot does because they do NOT want the does shot at this time but, I recommend that you do NOT force hunters into an Antlerless Only season because I think you will see a SHARP decline in sales of licenses and you certainly can't afford that kind of drastic downturn in sales but, I feel it will happen if you force us to go antler less only and I also don't want you to force us to kill a doe before we can shoot a buck. You tried that once and that absolutely horrible. We have to try to find places to hunt and that can be a bit troublesome. You used to have the antler less only in late October to fill that tag before a buck and that was trouble enough but, at least you had the buck hunt in November. Never really liked that idea to be forced to shoot a doe before a buck. Leave it the way it is so, we have choices of buck or doe or both and you don't have to shoot a doe first. If you leave the way it was for 2017, I'm a happy hunter. Randy Wallace



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- 16972 First, I want to thank the CDAC committee for doing this thankless job. No matter what you do you are doing it wrong in someones view. In general, people aren't going to shoot more deer by issuing more tags. They can only eat or give away so much venison. Once you issue more than one tag per license, it will not affect the harvest of does. Would be nice for state to promote venison as a healthy way to get lean meat, help increase the sport and an avenue for people to shot more does to give meat away. Because of this, the only way to increase harvest of does is to implement earn a buck. I know politicians voted to remove this tool for the DNR to use. However, this was before the CDAC committees were developed. Local CDAC committees are supposed to have local control and be able to set up deer harvest per county according to our Governor. If you think that is what is needed to control our deer numbers, implement it, and tell our government this is what Richland County needs. Have them fix the laws to make it happen. Lastly, I would like to see all the Southern Farmland with the same hunting frame work or seasons. Not have Richland County with the holiday hunt and Crawford without it. It is too complicated! We our suppose to make it easier for hunters not harder. One of the reason we hear why people quit trout fishing was because the rules were different from stream to stream. Now we are doing the same thing county by county for deer hunting
- 16973 I said this last year. People are lazy and don't want to hunt any harder then they have to. The only benefit of the archery season being extended and holiday hunt are to landowners that are putting in the food plots that have food available to the deer. Not everyone has this option and I don't feel it is fair just because you own a large piece of land or are extremely wealthy. I bet almost zero deer are harvested from public land during this time. All the extra seasons do nothing in Richland County as people own their land for deer hunting and aren't willing to go out and slaughter the herd that they pay dearly taxes on. By prolonging the season people procrastinate and I think it is having the opposite effect then what was hoped. We'll hunt next weekend because the weather will be nicer then the next weekend comes along and plans come up. Well I got a few more weeks left and now the weather is bad again. Get rid of the holiday hunt so snowmobile trails can be opened if snow is present as it brings in way more revenue during this time than a silly doe hunt.
- 16974 Please do not extend seasons. As an avid snowmobiler and hunter the hunting season is to long as it is. It makes getting trails in sooner and opening when conditions are appropriate much easier. The longer season is only for the lazy hunter to harvest deer when they are most vulnerable which I'm sure that is what you are after but if the deer don't herd on your land during this time you don't have much of a chance anyway. It's pretty easy to know the areas where they tend to spend most of the winter months and the landowners absolutely will not let you hunt. I wouldn't either if I had purchased the land for hunting like much of the land in Richland county. Do a deer count on public land during this time and it will be a small handful if any because most of it is bottom lying land and the deer move out of this area usually once it freezes. The cdac can keep making these changes but sooner than later it's going to backfire like it is. People want to see deer and it's a known destination for harvesting mature bucks.
- 16975 Eliminating buck tags and having antlerless-only seasons would be a huge mistake. I would hunt elsewhere, & those who hunt my property in Richland County wouldn't bother coming here at all. I am not opposed to taking a doe, & I do harvest them at times. Since mature bucks may be the primary carriers of CWD, having antlerless-only seasons seem scientifically unsound. I see very little wisdom in even bringing this topic up! None! EAB decreases deer numbers. We've witnessed that. The elimination of EAB and registration stations has changed all that. I also question the wisdom of eliminating registration stations during this new era of CWD in Wisconsin. Sadly, these are issues that are beyond our/your control. I really question the wisdom of antlerless seasons? In my opinion, it would have a huge negative impact on the total deer harvest in Richland County. I know my group would deer hunt elsewhere, & they have that option, too.



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- 16976 the extended seasons (holiday hunt and hunting deer in January) are poor management choices for several reasons . 1 they stress deer leading to a less healthy deer herd. 2 only a small percentage of the total deer kill are killed during these seasons, therefore they are not the most effective time for controlling deer populations. the focus should be on the 9-day firearm season this is when most of the deer kill occurs. for good reason, this is the time when there is the most consistent pressure on the deer across all properties. this is the single most important point to controlling deer populations. As to the total harvest numbers and antlerless quotas, historically the kill totals are the best indicators of the population, this management unit has year after year killed 5800 deer annually with relatively minor up and down fluctuations , this indicates a stable population not a increasing population.
- 16977 Every year I vacation and have the opportunity to hunt all of October and november. I hunt 300 acres so I am sure there is no over hunting the property. I hunt every morning and every evening. It is very rare that I miss a hunt. My biggest concern is the handing out of anger less permits as if they are candy. I spend more time in the woods than a great majority of all hunters and I can tell you each of the last several years I have seen a decline in the number of deer. The last 2 years have been exceptionally bad. This past year there where a majority of my hunts blank. The doe herd is almost non existing. Obviously you do not feel the same because you want to give out more after less permits. Our hunting party has been seriously considering not hunting next two years and hope the coyotes do not take the rest of the small population of deer in my part of the county.
- 16978 I read your need for harvesting more deer,then I read that they want to restrict the crossbow season. It guess I'm confused. I live in MN and come down to hunt the family farm at the end of Oct. early Nov. It is great time of year to be in the woods. From what I have heard is they want to not allow crossbow hunters to hunt during the rut . If that happens you have lost my \$160 tag and the money I spend while I'm there for a week or two.And as far as giving 4 doe tags with each tag, you could give 20 to everybody and the harvest would not change much. Im a meat cutter and process mine myself . most dont want to pay to have 2-3 done at a plant. Plus shooting a deer getting it out of the woods ect. is alot of work , average age of a hunter is older. Not sure what the answer is to lower the pop. is . Good Luck
- 16979 Although I support the the holiday antlerless hunt as it relates to harvesting antlerless deer, please consider allowing bowhunters the opportunity to harvest a buck during that timeframe. Students are returning from school to spend time with their family for the holidays, and it is disappointing to be restricted to does only. Also, for those who plant late-season food plots with high hopes of cold temperatures and classic late-season deer behavior as they utilize the food sources, it is frustrating to sit over these locations and pass a buck that you would normally shoot because only does are allowed to be harvested. Overall, I support the holiday antlerless hunt, but please consider allowing archery hunters the opportunity to fill their buck tag when they have time off work/school.
- 16980 Do we need to do something about the over population of deer yes. But around here it's more of tradition than a meat harvest. I believe the only way to get population down is perhaps paying hunters for each doe shot to a certain amount. Or start promoting donating the deer to the local pantries in there area. I used to eat deer steak. But now I don't and it's very expensive to get the deer made into sausage at a local locker. I think the donation and really pushing it in the media would be a great place to start. Some hunters may not even know about this program. I hunt on 240 acres of private. With another 1000 acres surrounding it. I don't think more than 15 deer were shot last year. Buck hunting and taking the does for some meat here and there is the norm I believe.



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- 16981 Allowing buck harvest during the holiday hunt would increase participation and the antlerless harvest. Changing the muzzleloader season dates to the holiday hunt dates would lead to higher participation and increased harvest. Currently there is only limited participation during the muzzleloader season because it immediately follows the gun season, it includes only one weekend, and doesn't include any holidays. Having the muzzleloader season during the holiday hunt dates would increase participation because all students are out of school during the entirety of the hunt. Most adult workers have an extended amount of time off, and deer would have returned to their normal patterns because the nine day gun season ended one month earlier.
- 16982 I feel that we do not need to decrease the deer population again. That to me makes no sense. I have seen fewer deer every year and I select harvest when I hunt. I believe that having more than one antlerless hunt is not smart and I believe the holiday hunt should be buck only, and no doe only hunt at all for regular or the holiday hunt. I hope to see the deer numbers rise again and even having a ban on baiting there are still cwd being tested so that proves it wasn't the cause. If anything get rid of all deer farms unless they have a business on deer scent. Deer we're here before we decided to expand our houses and cut down the forests. Decreasing the deer herd is only a start to putting deer in serious harm. Thank you
- 16983 Don't know why we need more deer killed seems whatever you did the last 2 years worked. At least in my area. Last year was by far the worst since the late 90's. Many many days of not seeing a single deer on private land and we keep tabs on the deer how many we shoot and not to see any hunting was sad. Maybe it's all the poaching or all the tags that were given out in years past but whatever the deer are not there, 5 deer the whole gun season gonna be hard to shoot a deer when there are so few. So if we are in a doe only for 2018 I will not buy any license gun or bow and the rest of our hunting party 11 in our group our 22 tags (gone).
- 16984 The idea of baiting is over stated in my opinion. Deer feed in herds. Surrounded by corn fields, acorns, hay, beans, etc. Go into any feed/hardware store and salt licks and mineral blocks adorn the aisles with pics of big antlered bucks that promote baiting (feeding) without saying outright. I think sighting fewer deer is a natural cycle of mother nature. I know there is a big decline in hunting numbers. Perhaps WDNR should extend seasons with no break. Purchase separate license for early, 9 day, holiday, etc. Creating hunting opportunities for everyone other than at Thanksgiving. Thank you.
- 16985 since you opened up the extra tags to slaughter the deer population in the past. the number of deer have diminished greatly. i used to be able to see 15 to 20 deer a day. now i'm lucky if i see 2 a day. you wanted to decrease the population i think you have done it and thin some. i say no holiday hunt. no extra antler less bonus tags to buy. i think you should get only a doe and a buck tag for each type of season. that's all a person really needs. the population in this county is well below what it should be. before to long its going to be like Jackson county not a deer to be found.
- 16986 When we first started hunting in Richland County 16 years ago I would see 10-15 deer per evening hunt. The last 3 years I have found that about 40% of the time I will see no deer at all. A good evening in the last 3 years would include seeing 4-5 deer. Habitat has not changed by us and we harvest generally 3-4 deer total per season on 80 acres. Based on what we have seen we are planning on harvesting fewer deer in the future. Our current plan is to shoot no more than 3 deer total from our 80 acres. Sad that with 4 people hunting it means someone will not get a deer.
- 16987 i am very worried about CWD. these recommendations are not aggressive enough. i would support additional tools to encourage hunters to take antlerless deer including bonus buck tag (bow and rifle) with antlerless harvest and adding an additional antlerless season in october. i woudl support extending the rifle season to 16 days to make it easier for hunters to harvest antlerless after the thanksgiving holiday weekend. more CWD testing locations in the county and much better information sharing about results and disease progressions in SW wisconsin.



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- 16988 I think the interest for deer hunting in Wisconsin would escalate greatly if there were more opportunities for everyone to harvest a mature whitetail buck (mature whitetail bucks are 3 1/2 years of age or greater). With the increase in interest, would in turn increase the harvesting of antler-less deer as you would see more deer hunters. My recommendations are: - Only 1 antlered deer per hunter, per calendar year - Cross bows only for handicapped or elderly hunters - Less "special hunts" which include antlered deer (should always be antler-less only)
- 16989 I have hunted in Richland county my whole life. I also own a meat processing business that processes deer. I feel the season should be a 9 day gun hunt. Force the hunters to go in that 9 day stretch. All the extra hunts do not get the hunters in the woods at the same time. There are alot of land owners that do not allow hunting, but if more people are out it will move the deer herds around. As a business that processes deer I prefer the 9 days. It's to hard to keep up with the other deer seasons and still process other meat.
- 16990 The availability of tags for hunters on properties with overly high densities of deer is necessary in this county. Not all tags sold will be filled, but the availability to manage the herd in certain regions is necessary for the health of the deer and human/deer interactions. If people choose not to harvest many antlerless deer that is fine, but those who need to and are willing need the opportunity to. Excess meat harvested can also go a long ways with some of the more fiscally challenged families in the region.
- 16991 In my opinion the Advisory should divide all units in 4 across the middle in both directions like a crosshair. This way you can look at unit (x) a,b,c,d. We all know north west Richland county is much more heavily populated with deer than south east corner. But the information you gather is really not relevant across the whole unit, including cwd. I would love to go back to identifying the nearest cross road at harvest for a more accurate assessment of hunter to harvest ratio across any unit.
- 16992 CWD is still an existential problem for the deer herd. It seems as if the State Legislature has interfered with good wildlife management. The earn a buck program was working to get hunters to shoot more deer. And I have never seen better buck hunting during that same program. Quality size bucks I believe are on the decline since earn a buck was retired. The herd should be eliminated in the CWD area. It is harsh medicine but I have not heard of any other rational idea.
- 16993 I think we need to consider going back to an earn a buck platform. I would go as far as saying we should have earn a buck starting with the first deer, and allowing multiple Buck tags per weapon for each additional antlerless deer harvested. We have too many animals for the area, and our property suffers crop damage due to the over population. When we have a 50/50 buck to do harvest it will not have the impact we need in order to balance the population. Thank You
- 16994 I think the crossbows should be for handicap only or 65 and older. a 10 year old using a crossbow is bull just because they can't pull a compound bow back.yes some parts of Richland county has more deer then some as in explain bear valley has a ton like cazenovia we did have a lot but we have Amish that shoots year around and I bet people don't call in and register they deer
- 16995 I am a non resident i have hunted Richland county for over 40 years i see less deer every year . I have decided to stop buying a non resident license because i am not going to spend 160.00 a year to go and stare at the woods and see no deer. This last year i hunted for 6 days and saw only 4 deer and that was on the first day of season. I will spend my money and hunt states that care about there deer population.
- 16997 I am concerned about the lack of deer in the area. Opening morning 2017, I only saw 2 small does. This is the third year that I have observed a decrease in population. I have hunted the same location the last 15 years and the decline is alarming. I have strongly considered not buying a license for 2018, it is hard to justify buying a license for another year with no harvest.



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- 16996 There are too many deer in Richland county and southern wi in general. I strongly oppose an antlerless only season but do want to see more does taken. I try to shoot as many as my family will eat and am trying to take more this year. I think the number of 4 doe tags with licenses is good. We just need to convince more people to take antlerless deer. And that's hard. Thanks.
- 16998 I strongly OPPOSE any proposal that would decrease the current length of the crossbow season (which currently is the same length of the compound bow season.) Such a change would eliminate "bow" hunting with family members and grandchildren who do not have the time to practice (working two jobs) or the strength to use a regular (compound) long bow.
- 16999 I have 340 acres of private land to hunt and only saw 4 deer on opening day. none on the second day and said screw it for the rest of the season. four hunters on this land we shot one deer with bow and one with gun. this was a fraction of the deer we have seen in previous years, so this year it will be bucks only for our land.
- 17000 We need to harvest more deer. We need to provide earn a buck tags to encourage additional harvesting. As I shot a CWD infected buck, I would have liked the opportunity to harvest another buck as I did not eat the positive tested one. Issue more buck tags for say \$10 a buck tag with extra revenue going to research CWD.
- 17001 Obviously, the DNR feels it can stop CWD by giving out 4 antlerless tags. I have absolutely no confidence in the DNR. The only thing that is certain after all the money that's been spent on CWD is the DNR has absolutely no clue, but pretends to be experts. The CDAC appears to be drinking the same Kool-Aid.
- 17002 Thank you for allowing Richland County bonus tags to be split between public and private land last season. Please continue this if possible. I am convinced that a doe only season in a trophy buck area like this would actually decrease the number of does killed rather than increase those numbers.
- 17003 Four antlerless tags per license is just stupid. My family has four hunters we do not need or will ever use 32 doe tags between bow hunting and gun hunting and if we did we better plan on not hunting next year because there wouldn't be anything left to hunt. Part of conservation is to conserve!!!
- 17004 We own land and are trying to manage it for forestry and also enjoy deer hunting opportunities. I support the CDAC recommendations to try and reduce the deer numbers. It seems that hunting pressure seems to be decreasing around us, so it may be up to few hunters to harvest more deer.
- 17005 leave the rifle and archery seasons including crossbows the way they are now and eliminate the holiday hunts!cut down the number of bonus tags for does!the deer population is being cut down by over population of coyotes in our area and to many antlerless deer are being harvested!
- 17006 I feel that the extension of the archery season would be a HUGE benefit. Also I feel that opening this county to baiting would allow deer hunters to responsibly manage and promote heard health through deer health promoting substances such as Ani-logics.
- 17007 While I dearly love hunting deer and am grateful for the opportunity to harvest many of them, I am most concerned about the damage inflicted by high herd populations on the ecosystem, and the risk to the herd health through disease transmission.
- 17008 Should b one doe tag given with a buck tag. If someone wants to shoot another deer charge another full license fee. Too many ppl shooting deer for fun and donating it in my opinion. Becoming a sport hunt more or less in some areas seems like.
- 17009 Please bring back Earn A Buck! The area I hunt it seemed to keep the doe population in check and we saw a lot more bucks, bigger bucks! People abuse the free doe tags, leaving pockets of high or low density of doe/ deer. Thanks
- 17010 Lowering permit fees for out of state hunters, or out of state landowners, would allow for additional hunters and in turn additional deer to be harvested to help meet the goal of decreasing the deer population.



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- 17011 Bring back earn a buck. We had the best bucks and buck to doe ratios in those years. Going to a doe only season will only drive land prices down and reduce hunters, which will increase the population of deer.
- 17012 I think the DNR tends to want to over harvest the does. The earn a buck was the worst idea ever the hunting just continued to get worse. The herd is now in recovery and I suspect good hunting again.
- 17013 Predators, Bobcats and coyotes are killing alot of fawns the last few years. fawn recruitmant was very low in 2017. We have been seeing a buck to doe ratio of 1 to 1 for the last few years also.
- 17014 The decreasing amount of deer in the area is very worrisome. Between over harvesting from hunters, and from natural predators like coyote, the population is noticeably depleted from past years.
- 17015 Bring back bonus buck tags. Incentivize antlerless harvest that way. Also open up the holiday hunt to antlered deer. Bonus buck tags were great. I would also support earn a buck again as well.
- 17016 I believe Earn-a-buck was the best deer management tool. It is unfortunate this is a legislative issue now and that CDAC's are not able to use this as a tool to reduce doe numbers
- 17017 The Holiday Hunt should be either sex not antlerless only. Additionally, a anterless only gun hunt in October would also be effective in reduce the deer herd.
- 17018 Due to CWD spreading we need to thin the herds in this area. EXTEND the antlerless hunting season thru the winter, after the warm weather than bow hunters use.
- 17019 I oppose antlerless only season, also oppose any season to not be able to use a crossbow, it should be a choice of what kind of bow you use.
- 17020 I feel earn a buck was and could be the best tool to reduce doe numbers and allow for quality bucks. That or a bounty for does killed.
- 17021 Having an antlerless only hunt in any county of SW Wisconsin would be a disaster. You would have less hunters in the woods.
- 17022 earn a buck program would be a good program compared to antler less only
- 17023 Shorten the crossbow season, take out of the rut.
- 18065



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Rock, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

45 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 32
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
I hunt in this unit: 37
General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 35
Bow: 25
Crossbow: 19
Muzzleloader: 17

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 20.68
Maximum: 45

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 23
Mostly Private Land: 6
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 0
Exclusively Public Land: 5
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 6
Fewer: 8
Same: 21
More: 7
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	0	4	12	14	15	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	5	12	16	11	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	3	11	17	10	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	1	6	21	0	0	17
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	0	6	22	0	0	17

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	5	33	7	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	8	24	1	12

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	13	31	1
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	19	20	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	39	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.11
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.70
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.36
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.34
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.05
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.02
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.20
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.11
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.00
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.68
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.16



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Rock, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 17024 Hunt the Avon bottoms my whole life. The land used to be filled with crop land but has since been abandoned for crop. The few crops remaining mainly attract fawns during hunting hours and night time feeding from deer brave enough to venture areas that are pummeled by pheasant and duck hunters. I venture in over a mile to most spots I hunt with light weight climber and though I find little hunting pressure deer are still hard to come by. My opinion to improve harvest numbers would be allowing a stand or two per hunter left in tree during season like northern zones. Most hunters I encounter are not willing to put time/work in to drag stand out and hang it in the dark take it back down every time they want to hunt. I know I've busted deer out of my spot almost everytime im putting climber up in the dark. Defeats the purpose of sneaking into a bedding area when you got a headlamp shinning around and metal clanking together 30 minutes before shooting light. Out of the 1000 acre portion I hunt I bet 200 gets hunted because of this very reason. Which is why no one in that I ever talk to claims to see any deer. Allowing people to hang a stand and leave it will get them to spread out and getting more deer moving and ultimately increase harvest numbers. Not to mention how much safer it is then constantly putting up and taking a tree stand in the dark.
- 17025 The DNR needs to raise Out of State licensing for Whitetail deer, everywhere else is much higher than WI. Raising prices for non-resident will bring more money into the WI DNR. Sure, not as many non-residents will hunt in WI, then issue more tags to residents if you are trying to maintain populations within certain areas of the state, or extend the season. I highly disagree with having Antlerless only hunts, it directly affects us bowhunters on harvesting a buck during these time periods. I understand that more Antlerless deer are harvested during this period, but if you can't harvest an antlerless deer during a 9 day gun season, that is your own fault. Or think about splitting the gun season up to early and late, like Iowa does. This will prevent the huge rush of people entering the woods all at one time. Deer know exactly what's going on during this time, and the majority of the smart ones will find a hiding spot and you will not see them until the woods has cleared. I think it would be more successful because they can proceed with their daily habits, giving more people better opportunity at harvesting a whitetail.
- 17026 Numbers of deer are up near levels prior to earn a buck in my area. I'm concerned about sick deer infecting other deer and some animals not making it to a mature age because of disease. We know they can transfer the disease by touching noses and it's nothing for me to see 10 deer at a time in one of my small food plots. I did harvest a doe this year to help out but I think additional tags should be free or very low price for out of state as well. We are right on the state line with a number of hunters from out of state. I also think we should look at turkey numbers and how it relates to decreased forage for deer and possibly more crop damage from loss of natural forage leading to agriculture loss. I also believe the movement of bucks is lower with the increase in numbers of does. During earn a buck years ago I saw more daytime movement as I think bucks had to cover more ground searching. Leading to more opportunities.
- 17027 There is a BIG concern about CWD in all of Wisconsin. There are numerous deer that are taken to commercial butchers for processing. Very few of the deer are then tested for CWD and deer meat which is contaminated is potentially mixed with other meat which is not contaminated. If there is a health risk to humans on CWD, then all processor of deer meat should be required to test the deer and the contaminated meat disposed of. If there is no health risk to humans from CWD, then the DNR need not have any testing or other costly activities related to it. A local butcher processed over 300 deer this past year. IF, for example just one of those deer had CWD and if CWD is a risk to people, then the meat from that one deer may have contaminated much of the meat and could a major health crisis for hundreds of people eating that contaminated meat.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17028 Very disappointed in the age kids can hunt and having parents shooting deer for them then being able to register them. Crazy should go back to 12 years with having to take hunters education. The 10 and 11 yr old mentoring program was alright. And also mad thinking of giving kids free fishing license for life!! It makes people appreciate something when you pay for things and it supports the sport. shouldn't take crossbows away either. People put lots of money in them. If anything should really consider having antlered deer being so big. Some type of rule like that.
- 17029 Get rid of any age can hunt. Crazy a little kid can shot an animal knowing they can't carry a gun let alone hold one up. Super scary they don't know or understand the hunting regulations. Hunting age at 12 and must complete hunters safety. The mentor program at age 10 and 11 is alright. And that the parents registered their deer....which the parent more then likely shot....just insane! Also shouldn't get rid of crossbow people put lots of money in them things. If anything should be a rule of how big a buck can be point wise.
- 17030 Bring back earn a buck. The years this was implemented we had what I believe to be the healthiest deer herd we have ever had since CDW was detected in Rock County. Right now people are not forced to shoot a doe and many people don't. When you had the earn a buck program this was not the case. I believe the herd was managed and maintained better in these earn a buck years than it is now.
- 17031 Don't extend the deer season. There is no reason to need 5 month to harvest a deer with a compound bow-cross bow- or re curve bow. Also Go back to the standard 9 Day gun hunt and then the muzzle loader season and be done with deer hunting for the year. Very few people go out archery hunting after the gun season is over. End deer hunting after muzzle loader season and be done with it.
- 17032 Doubling antlerless quota does not seem logical if maintaining population is the goal. This same logic is even worse in Douglas County where goal is to increase population why would you have a huge percentage increase in antlerless quota. Let the deer population continue to recover especially with all the late snows this spring
- 17033 I totally agree with a one tag only for antlerless per license but only one! Close the season for gun on antlered deer! We need to manage the herd better and let our deer become more mature. To many hunters are more interested in slaughtering everything that moves and help personal safety as well!
- 17034 Does not make any sense to have holiday hunt I sat in on your meeting that a biologist said bucks carry way more cwd than does hunt would be great if u still had a unused buck tag and could use . I won't let anyone on my property for doe shoot only make no sense
- 17035 There is more to this County being able to hunt than just deer hunting shorten the season make people get out earlier and Hunt No One hunts after December 15th time to allow everyone else to enjoy the outdoors and not just the stupid deer hunters
- 17036 We still have more than 15 deer per square mile of habitat as we did in the '80s. Heard numbers should be targeting the lower end of the Maintain range. Thank you and keep up the good work!
- 17037 The herd is very thin in Rock County, my nephew after 5 years of hunting is yet to see a deer, therefore I feel any holiday hunt or dose only hunt would be a wrong decision at this time.
- 17038 I think the Deer License fee should be raised for out of state hunters. Other states charge MUCH more for out of state deer hunters. Illinois being a prime example?!
- 17039 Thanks for holding a Holiday Hunt. It's a great management tool and offers additional hunting opportunity for those who like to get outside with family.
- 17040 I believe we should be able to put out reasonable amount of mineral on private property.
- 17041 Deer season is way too long as it is. end it after the 9day and muzzle loader season.
- 17042 na
- 18066



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Rusk, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

83 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 24
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 17
I hunt in this unit: 77
General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 70
Bow: 39
Crossbow: 38
Muzzleloader: 26

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 26.48
Maximum: 70

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 30
Mostly Private Land: 16
Public and Private Land About Equally: 12
Mostly Public Land: 7
Exclusively Public Land: 12
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 13
Somewhat crowded: 11
Very crowded: 12
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 10
Fewer: 23
Same: 27
More: 16
Many More: 6
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	Much Too Low	Too low	About Right	Too High	Much Too High	Unsure
Antlerless Quota:	5	10	34	19	11	4



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	11	34	18	13	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	4	7	31	21	10	10
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	72	7
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	46	27	10

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.30
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.01
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.32
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.56
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.52
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.27
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.44
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.58
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.64
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.46
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.28



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Rusk, Northern Forest

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17043 Yes, with the way private land ownership is distributed nowadays and much of that land in any unit, not just mine, is accessible to hunt either from not gaining permission or land is closed off to hunting(deer). How can a hunter give a honest opinion on this type of survey? It's no different than accurately estimating the overall deer population per unit or even in the state. If a non-landowner can't hunt these private lands and farming areas where deer populations thrive, then how can we as a whole(Hunters) expect to have a balance whether it be unit or statewide? Example; I seen 3 deer in the best areas out of the couple both private and public land I had to hunt in 7 days of hunting this past WI. Rifle Season. I consider myself a pretty good hunter and all around Outdoorsmen. Now, I know all about deer concentration in my unit, but what does one have to do to see more than 3 deer in 7 days of hunting? I know dang well where there's better hunting and higher concentration's, but I or no one else can hunt those areas without permission. So what I'm getting at is the deer population unit or statewide has turned especially to those private lands a long time ago into Mirco Managing of the overall deer population. The WI. Dept. of Natural Resource's nowadays can make all the right decisions/rules/regulations/quota's etc.. they see feasible, but in all regards the WDNR will never be able to have control of the Private Sector and those private land owner's and agriculture areas. I still think those farmers that collect crop damage for example and are hunter's themselves should be under closer scrutiny. The way the Crop Damage program is set-up to date, it's just a Catch 22 for those land owner's. They benefit insurance/money wise for crop damage, then receive tags to decrease the animals causing the damage which quite a few I assume just use them for themselves and also have the option of giving those crop damage tags to whom they chose. This, landowner keeping a book of hunters say per 40 acre's is a joke in itself. Less the WDNR is going to more frequently check these files the landowner under the Crop Damage Programs more frequently and contact these hunter's to see what relationship they are to the landowners, the landowner is going to continue this process. I won't go into my units Predator problems in relation to deer density and distribution. That isn't hard to figure out when you have Wolves come into your back yard.

17044 This comment is not necessarily about this unit. It's more global to state of WI policy on control of CWD. I'd really like to see the elimination of private game deer farms. These seem to be breeding grounds for spread of CWD due to the density of animals per acre. It's not that I am anti business, and I am certainly not anti-hunting as I've been hunting my whole life. It just seems to me that there is something amiss in how we regulate these endeavors. if memory serves correct several years ago there was a farm that had a fence break, and as a result a number of CWD positive deer escaped into the wild. From my understanding, this did not result in any penalty for the business farm owner. Odd to me...that someone responsible for maintaining the secure fence around a deer species biological weapon would instead of facing penalty receive a 6 figure check for the loss of said toxic assets. Stop insuring and compensating these game farm owners for destroying their sick animals. If that is done, they will either get out of the business, or shape up their operations and perhaps try to find an insurer willing to write a policy on the deer they jam into conditions likely to spread disease.



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- 17045 Rusk County is a diverse County. From huge timber tracts to agriculture. So I can see having some antlered permits. I do feel we have a problem with predation on the northern forest areas. It appears to us that the last few years have had milder winters, but we are seeing less deer. We were hoping with the milder (less severe) winters this would change, but we are not seeing this. We do spend considerable time in the woods during the archery and gun seasons, but we also spend time pre and post season monitoring the deer in our area of northeast Rusk County. We also please came cameras out and they also confirm our observations of fewer deer. Of course we feel the wolf has something to do with this, but we also feel the bears, coyotes and bobcats are also contributing to the high mortality rate, especially with the fawn population.
- 17046 Get rid of the county zones. We live in an area that is in the northern zone and has an abundance if deer and too many does. It would be more realistic to have the zone in Rusk county be Highway 8 and north as the northern zone. The deer population south of Hwy 8 is much greater than that north of HWY 8 due to high agriculture south to minimal agriculture as you go north. Same hold true for snow fall and temperature. It would be nice to give private land owners who own larger parcel such as 100 or 200 acres more decision making on how they manage the deer herd on their property. Our interest is not to shoot all deer but to manage the herd. Provide the right to shoot a doe without having to pay for a doe permit based on larger parcels owned.
- 17047 Northern Rusk Co, the Bluehills region, experienced a very harsh winter on our deer ! The extended mid winter conditions have been the "fatal blow" to many deer. A serious crust factor for the entire months of Feb, Mar, & several weeks into April has been extremely damaging to the deer. A WSI in this area exceeds 118 w/o a crust factor and closer to 138 with a crust consideration added in. Predators continue to play a major role in impacting the deer herd in northern Wi. Excessive numbers of bear, coyotes, & wolves are greatly limiting the increase in real deer numbers. ** Summary: A severe winter combined with high predation issues, coupled with a large antlerless quota will most certainly be a huge negative in deer populations in our area!!
- 17048 There are too many hunters on Public land in the Rusk County DMU. The nice bucks are mostly on Private land. The private land south of Hwy 8 contains many deer while the county forest area north of Hwy * contains few. One 11 year old girl shot a doe during the 2017 deer gun season in our group out of 16 people in our hunting group...very, very disappointing. Thinking about only hunting in my home county this year instead since no deer up there. PS...The WI legislature has things so screwed up deer hunting is not fun now...ask the hunters what they want instead of making assumptions
- 17049 Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion. I think we had a long hard winter with plenty of snow. In my scouting travels this winter most of the deer I saw were near roads and trails because of the snow we had?? I did find deer herded up in certain areas and other areas were nothing as to be expected. I did find one carcass where the deer were herded up this was well after the deer season I could not tell if it was predator or not? In closing I would like to add keeping the doe permits down a little as you are projecting a good thing for awhile. Thanks The Deer Hunter.....
- 17050 THE PUBLIC FORESTS HAVE AND CONTINUE TO BE DEPLETED OF DOE. THE BUCK TO DOE RATIO IS WAY OUT OF WHACK WITH BUCKS WAY OUTNUMBERING DOE IN THE NW PORTION OF PUBLIC LAND IN RUSK. NO MORE DOE KILLINGS!! I HAVE HUNTED THIS AREA FOR 37 YEARS AND THE PAST 5 YEARS IT HAS BEEN BRUTAL, SEEING SMALL BUCKS AND ZERO DOE. A HUNTER IS LUCKY TO SEE A DEER DURING A WEEK OF HUNTING. STRONGLY CONSIDER MAKING RUSK COUNTY A FOUR-POINT RULE COUNTY LIKE MISSOURI. STOP THE DOE HUNTS ON PUBLIC LAND!!! THIS WINTER HAS BEEN HARSH AND IF WE SHOOT MORE DOE THE HERD WILL BE ALMOST NON-EXISTENT.
- 17051 In some areas in this DMU, as in other units, there are areas where there are too many antlerless deer and thus the herd continues to grow too fast. And the reverse situation is true where there are too few deer in parts of the unit. I think the planned numbers are "about right" overall, but perhaps a bit low considering the potential of the herd for growth this year. I believe we also have a predator problem to monitor and I would also like to see predator numbers more closely managed. Thank you for your good work!



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17052 I mainly gun hunt in rusk county and it is very, very, very crowded during rifle season making much less enjoyable when all you see is orange. The deer numbers are still low and there should be 0 antlerless tags. They already issued antlerless tags much to soon last year. It should prove it by the ratio of tags bought vs actual doe harvest. There just isn't the deer numbers up there. Not to mention a very long tough winter, lack of food, and very high predator numbers in rusk. No doe tags on public this year!
- 17053 I would like to see the DNR discontinue investing in the Elk population and divert those resources to better management of the wolf and bear population. If the Elk herd ever gets to the population level where there would be equate licenses available my assumption is that they deer herd would be drastically down in those areas since they are in direct competition with each other for food sources. I would prefer the DNR to invest more heavily in Deer Management, CWD control and predator management.
- 17054 Ban all baiting statewide. It is supposed to be deer hunting NOT trapping. Ban all use of crossbows unless a person used to hunt with a bow for a set number of years and is no longer physically able. Don't allow tree stands up over night on any public lands. Require all deer shot or hit by cars to be tested for CWD so everyone has an idea of how widespread CWD is instead of trying to downplay this major problem.
- 17055 I believe late season Muzzleloader, Archery and Crossbow seasons decimate the mature buck population, particularly when hunting over bait (corn). Mature bucks feed much earlier in the afternoon and with greater regularity at that time of year. Give them a break and let them recuperate after the rut, close all deer seasons at the end of the year (or better yet, Christmas) as a good starting point.
- 17056 I think that the excessive clear cutting of the mast crop hardwoods on public land is going to adversely affect the deer population. They need the acorns and other mast crops to sustain them through the winter months. It will take decades to replace them. Previous clear cuts could have been recut and mast crop hardwoods could be select cut to maintain good food sources for the wildlife.
- 17057 Having young children hunting to make more money on licenses is sad and should be reconsidered. The public land in Rusk county is so covered in 4 wheeler trails these days it's hard to find a quiet spot to hunt any more. I would say, reduced the number of ATV trails and take care of the larger trails that are already established instead of making new ones.
- 17058 Had 9 hunters on private 80 acres, more than half were youth or mentored hunters. We saw 1 deer during the gun season. Very disappointing for the younger ones. Since we saw deer and had trailcam pictures of deer prior to the gun season, we may have been at fault for overcrowding the available property. The deer appeared to have gone 100% nocturnal.
- 17059 In our group, approx. 15 people, we allow the youth hunters to shoot does. Everyone else has to shoot at least a 6pt. buck or larger. Since we have implemented this practice we are seeing more 8 pt. bucks. We are still not seeing large no's of deer compared to 10 years ago. I am very concerned about the harsh winter in Rusk Co. this year.
- 17060 After 40 years of hunting this unit, the negative impacts of hunters baiting deer continues to rise. Eighty percent of the shots heard opening weekend of the gun deer season came from one 80 acre parcel of private land. Those hunting the public land just don't see any deer. Baiting and feeding deer needs to be eliminated statewide.
- 17061 We have a MAJOR predator problem. We need to open a Wolf season ASAP! The wolf problem is having a major negative impact on license sales and north forest economy during the deer season. Without Proper Management the deer herd will continue to be devastated by wolves and our hunting heritage will go extinct!
- 17062 Each 9 day gun season I sit from opening morning thru Tuesday sitting all day. No lunches or still hunting etc. 2016 I saw 1 deer and 2017 I saw 2. Only speaking on public land, I am 100% certain that the landscape that I hunt could easily support many more deer per square mile. I cannot speak on private land



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17063 I am happy with the proposed reduction of antler less tags. However, I believe they are still too high. None in the public area and 2500 in the private area. I believe the major problem is that Rusk county should be divided into 2 DMU's. North of Hwy 8 and South of Hwy 8. Thank you.
- 17064 i think we should try a year where we have a antler restriction. alot of young bucks are being harvested as our deer heard tries to rebound. we dont see many mature bucks anymore. maybe a year where they need at least 6 points would help. i know it wouldnt be popular but it would help
- 17065 I guess the main thing I would like to see is during the youth hunts, make them longer or add one more as the 4 youth I take out I only get 1 day each with each child and I'm trying to teach a heritage and traditions here.
- 17066 The Wovles in the northern part of Rusk County is starting to be overpowering. I work up on the Firelane off of County O and had a lot of deer kills this winter and saw a lot of Wolves. We need to get a wolf season back.
- 17067 Please consider cutting the antler-less quota by at least 70%. There is not the deer numbers out there you think there is. I own my own land which is next to public land & the numbers are not there. thank you
- 17068 I would like to see antler restrictions and better education on ageing deer on the hoof. I am also concerned about cross bow use and an invasion of additional hunters during the rut. Thanks
- 17069 Do not change the current crossbow hunting regulations. The only reason I got back into hunting was because I could use a crossbow for the entire deer hunting season.
- 17072 I would like to see the age class of bucks increase. Antler size restrictions may be one way to achieve that. I would also like to see baiting BANNED.
- 17070 We need to bring back the wolf hunting season. They are taking over in rusk cty. That and y does it take 8 years to get a bear tag tons of bear as well.
- 17071 I believe deer numbers and hunting opportunities good. I think we have to take into consideration more of the predator harvest in the future. Thank you.
- 17073 There are plenty of deer in Rusk County. I had 3 road kills on my frontage on Hwy D alone. I would suggest increasing antlerless tags
- 17074 We are dairy farmers and I have 30 to 50 deer a night eating from are Ag Bags and they come into are silo room and eat corn.
- 17075 To many hunters shooting everything that moves during rifle season where I hunt. To many doe tags issued for 2017 season.
- 17076 Long winter is being very harsh on the deer herd. A lot of deer are suffering in our area.
- 17077 Too many predators. I saw 7 coyotes and had wolves howling all around me for days.
- 17078 Seeing more wolfs then deer the past five years is very disturbing.
- 17079 time to stop allowing baiting for the health of the herd
- 17080 DO NOT create separate seasons for crossbow
- 18067



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Sauk, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

144 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 100
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 22
I hunt in this unit: 123
General interest in this unit: 28

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 116
Bow: 74
Crossbow: 49
Muzzleloader: 37

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 26.31
Maximum: 68

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 73
Mostly Private Land: 24
Public and Private Land About Equally: 13
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 7
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 2

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 14
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 17
Somewhat crowded: 7
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 26
Fewer: 47
Same: 40
More: 20
Many More: 8
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	15	21	44	38	21	3



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	9	55	49	21	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	7	12	49	41	25	8
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	23	65	51	3
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	60	78	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	69	57	15
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	24	110	8
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.17
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.88
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.35
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.72
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.12
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.07
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.46
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.50
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.26
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.49
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.30



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Comments for Sauk, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17095 Thanks for the chance to comment. Deer hunting is very important to my family here in Sauk County, as a meaningful source of food and an esthetic and spiritual connection with the natural world and with each other. I appreciate the work that the CDAC committee does, and DNR's responsibility to the hunter, the hunted, the nonhunter and land health. Deer numbers continue to increase despite the number of antlerless tags available because so many hunters are after bucks, and resist shooting antlerless deer. Offering more antlerless tags will have little effect on the population if they continue not to be used--although it would help a few hunters (I could use 3). We need a change in deer-hunting culture that does not romanticize antlers, but values the hunt and the personal and ecological relationship with deer--not as a trophy. DNR and hunting groups should advance this. We do not see a lot of deer during our hunts but we see and experience plenty to keep us engaged. What we are able to harvest, we do, up to 3 or 4 each year--antlered or not, small or large, within the limits of the law and what presents itself to us during the hunt. On the average, it takes us about 10 person-hours of hunting per deer harvested. The relationship with the deer develops further with the field dressing, butchering, cooking, eating, sharing, watching the bones be picked clean by birds, etc. Although seeing a large buck does make my heart pump a little harder, it does not affect whether or not I shoot. I would like to see more detailed stats (histograms) on numbers of deer seen by hunters, rather than just the average, and how many deer seen were within shooting range, i.e., how many deer a hunter decides not to harvest by choice. Maintaining an overabundant deer herd so that hunters can see more deer and have more to choose from, in order to get the big buck, is selfish, and a luxury we can't long afford, when these high populations have adverse effects on people who live and farm here, drive the roads; and on the ecology of the county and the health of the deer itself (CWD being the most obvious example). I realize that hunters' wants are important, as are the tourist dollars that hunting brings to the local economy. What about the \$400+ and dozens of hours my family has spent on fencing oak seedlings the past 3 years, the costs of 5 car-deer collisions over the past 20 years, and the effect of decimating regeneration of oaks, hemlock and many wildflowers and other native plants, and the effects on crops as well? Some deer exclosures would be useful in demonstrating the ecological effects. So would long-term monitoring of unfenced plant populations to note responses to deer population estimates (if they ever change long-term). I agree with the ongoing predator ecology studies in southern Wisconsin, to learn more about their natural history and their place in the ecological web. I am surprised by the number of Wisconsin hunters (noted in DNR survey results) who assume that predators are keeping deer populations too low, and this study will help answer the question of predator effect. Since our problem in southern Wisconsin is with too many deer, perhaps if we find any significant or potential population effect from bobcats, coyotes, wolves, bear, etc., we will conclude we need more predators. Maybe they can help accomplish what we seem to be unable to alone. Deer are important to us as a society-- hunters and nonhunters alike--and we are responsible for managing the deer herd but that does not make them ours. It should also not make deer more important than the land that supports all populations of plants and animals, including the deer and us.



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17096 Thank you for your time and creating this survey as well as compiling the information within and using it to best help both nature/environment and the outdoors persons in our state. My observation in the past two years near the Leland and Rock Springs areas, on both the private and public land that I hunt (bow hunt on both, gun hunt private only) is this... I have seen, with absolutely no doubt, a major decrease in the number of fawn whitetail deer in the past 2 years than any other time in my hunting career (37 years). I do not know if this is due to increased predation or disease, but something is reducing either the number of pregnant females that give birth, or increasing the fawn mortality. Never in my hunting career have I witnessed groups of three-to-six adult doe (or more) together with NO fawns or yearlings with them. In the past two years, this has actually become the norm, be it in the woods or in the fields. At first I didn't really notice, but with more days and hours of scouting and hunting, in various locations, I started to see a pattern. One doe, two doe, three doe, no fawns. This is particularly odd in the early stages of archery season, but even later on the doe-fawns will stay with their mother and mingle within the other doe, but not the past two years. I can honestly report from my notes I keep, that I saw a total of 8 fawn last fall (17) and 10 in 2016. Therefore, I don't think that it would be wise, at this point, to do a major decrease of deer and/or antlerless deer. It seems that something in nature is already doing a pretty thorough job of it on her own. My best recommendation is to stay the course for at least two more years and gather more information. I am aware that some of my hunting brethren are simply out to see and harvest more deer for selfish reasons. I am not that type of hunter. I want to see balance in the herd (which is why I was a proponent of occasional use of EAB and I understand the idea of an antlerless only is an attempt to steer around the laws against using EAB). Right now I am not seeing that balance, and this includes my observations this winter and spring as deer are hitting the fields hard for nourishment with this long, cold, spring. Very few yearlings. However, if something is done, or needed to be done for the purpose of improving the herd balance, then, while it most certainly will not be popular, and some people will not buy licenses, I would fully support 1 year of antlerless only hunting with the modification that it is 1 deer per hunter only. Not one for archery, and one for gun, and one for muzzleloader etc. Be aware that this would cause a major decline in the deer population, and with any type of full-on hunting the following year, could continue to cause a disruption in the population, but also in hunting revenue. Thank you for this opportunity to share my experiences and opinion.



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17097 The white deer in Sauk County are becoming a major issue as the population continues to increase and there's little to nothing we as hunters can do about it. I realize this is a state law that was able to be passed due to a group of people who like to see white deer... There is no scientific or biological reason to protect white deer; so why is this still the case? I also know that Wood County is having issues with an overabundance of white deer as well. Something is going to have to change to deal with this issue. On the property I own there is a herd of 10 white deer and they have kicked brown deer off our property because they are old mature white does and have the dominance in the herd. We have seen this in person and on trail cam pictures and videos. The white deer issue is more political than it is biological and that to me does not make any sense whatsoever. Studies have also shown that white deer are genetically deficient and do not carry the best traits like regular brown deer do. We have had multiple brown mature bucks that are offspring of the white does in the past with less than stellar racks due to their poor genetics. Another point is CWD is increasingly becoming an issue in this area of the state and we need to shoot more deer to control the spread of the disease yet we are restricted from killing these white deer that could be carrying the disease and are increasing the population. This also does not make any sense and is not logical. I went to the CDAC meeting and was told that Sauk County will not push this issue because of the political issues it involves and since one of the members of the board is from the Leland area where the group is from and does not want to step on toes. I understand that... but at some point enough is enough and something needs to be done for the health of the deer herd. That is the single most important thing to be accomplished. I would gladly be a spokesperson to get this law reviewed and revoked because I care about deer and deer hunting more than almost anything in this world. In conclusion, please take this into consideration and think about hunters and the health of the deer herd rather than the opinions of select people who have formed a "Save the Rare White Deer" group and website who have signs posted throughout yards everywhere. Is this really deer management? That to me is a simple answer, no it absolutely is not.

17098 I have been deer hunting for 17 years. I enjoy it very much, usually get at least one or two deer per year, and have fun with friends and family. I have shot bucks, but prefer does for meat. I leave the bucks for those that care. In the off-season, I have consistently seen fields with groups of deer ranging from 8 to 45 deer. There are some spots between Wisconsin Dells and Baraboo with obscene numbers of deer in the fields. Seeing a field of 45 deer is a sign of stress on the system, not success. Management of the deer population using social perception rather than scientific population data and estimates was a mistake. Or, look to the land, what do deer browse estimates tell us about the future of our natural lands? And what is the connection between deer populations and antler inches? There are only so many antler inches the resources on the land can produce. More deer means fewer inches per deer. I don't want to deny the trophy aspect of hunting, but let's work harder to put that need into perspective. At some point, it would be interesting to do the SAK model again as a check-in on deer populations across Wisconsin by DMU. My guess would be that populations have gone up as a result of the socially acceptable deer management process and yet, hunter satisfaction has only improved marginally or not at all. Expectations are a moving target as well and nearly impossible to satisfy. Realized expectations become the new normal. Is our deer hunting community not capable of governing expectations? Or, are our expectations the elephant in the room nobody is willing to address? There are questions in the survey tangential to revealing what is behind hunter expectations. Let's face it, few would be willing to call themselves out as wanting something entirely selfish from our natural resources that have so many other higher callings than putting a rack on their wall or guarantees on opening day.



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17099 I oppose the use of a crossbow simply because of the fact that it seems like the crossbow users think that they can simply step out in to the woods and pull the trigger on an animal without proper practice with the weapon. I had a friend that had never shot a bow before in his life, buy a crossbow. He never shot it (he's an older gentleman, early 50's, I put it together for him and it was sighted in right out of the box.) He lives in a rural subdivision where bow hunting is legal. He saw a deer in his back yard and was going to shoot it with the crossbow that he had never shot before. The only problem was that he couldn't figure out how to screw the broadhead in to the bolt without cutting his fingers!?!? Now to an avid bow hunter, this story is funny, but to the avid outdoorsman, this story is sick.... Let crossbow hunters use them during the rifle season only, and see how many of them still use them.....They aren't using them for the love/thrill of the sport, getting a deer within 20-30 yards. They are using them because it's easy and they don't have to put in all of the work to harvest an animal. On another note, I would really like to see a law similar to Minnesota where you may only shoot an antlered buck with so many points to a side (4 points to a side, etc) I think we would then be able to harvest more does any given year and the number of deer being seen would not depreciate. I understand that the antlered deer law with a certain number of points to a side would be tough to enforce when it first starts, but obviously it is working elsewhere (i.e. Minnesota)

17100 Yet again our beloved CDAC has let us down. How on earth can ANYONE who claims to be a hunter, sit there and say that they'd like to "decrease" their deer herd? That is some strong peyote my friends, very strong. You have got to be kidding me. You're literally saying, "I'm ok, I've seen TOO MANY deer"! I have never....in 32 years of hunting, heard one single person say that. EVER! Yet.....here we are. The WI DNR in all its glory, come see the circus! It's easy to see why they would say that, the CDAC is nothing but a pawn of the DNR, and the DNR has never lost the "kill 'em all" mentality of the Earn-A-Buck days. Don't believe that? You're not paying attention then. So I get why, they're just doing what they're told.....but do not sit here and LIE to myself, and hunters about it!!! Thoroughly and utterly sickening, every time I read about it, which is far too often! Get rid of these dumb antlerless only hunts, get rid of the holiday hunt, get rid of the earn a buck thinking, get back to normalcy! Sauk Co can never sell all their antlerless tags, yet we see an increase of the amount of tags, every year. The public hunting lands in this county are over run with people/hunters, and you want to give out more tags? No wonder there's no deer left. We'll never learn until we rid ourselves of the "kill em all" mentality, it has to stop, period!

17101 Having lived in Sauk County all of my life and hunted deer since 1966 I have seen the good and bad years of deer hunting. My biggest concern these past few years is the extreme growth of deer numbers in our area (Freedom Township). It is not surprising to see large numbers (25 - 50) of deer in my fields adjacent to my buildings with several coming into the buildings area and eating corn from my ear corn cribs. I no longer do ear corn but there still is corn in the cribs. These same numbers are not uncommon at our other adjacent farms. I have never minded some damage to my crops (beans - corn) but it has now gotten pretty extensive and last year I decided to let family members take a few doe if they had permits and wanted to. I also shot a doe with my crossbow. I plan on doing this again this year if permits are available and would probably take more than one doe given the circumstances described. I would never support an "antlerless only" or "earn a buck season" since I feel it punishes many good hunters and in my case the landowners and farmers like myself that feed the deer but enjoy "buck" hunting. We have several family members that hunt our farms and we all have this opinion. I would encourage and support the offering of at least 2 free permits for all types of deer hunting licenses purchased. Thank you for your consideration. i i



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- 17102 The deer population of Sauk County varies tremendously depending on location. I agree with reducing the deer herd in the central and south western part of the county. From my travels in these areas and talking to fellow hunters who hunt these areas there are some good size herds in these areas. The north eastern part of the county where I own land and hunt is still rebuilding from the earn a buck years. I own 220 acres in Dellona Township. It has 60 acres farm land and the remainder is woods and swamp with Dell creek running through it. I have 5 acres of food plots scattered around the property and there are plenty of acorns. I monitor the property with trail cams and talk to my neighbors. I do not feel there is an over population of deer in Dellona Township. It does not help that the majority of public hunting in Sauk Co. is in the north eastern part of the county. I wish we could have different quotas for roughly the north east 1/3 of the county and roughly the southwest 2/3 of the county. It was difficult to answer the questions in the survey because overall Sauk Co does need to reduce the deer herd, but the north east portion could use a couple more years of buck only hunting. Thank you for listening.
- 17103 Thank you for the opportunity to comment. It appears the deer population in Sauk County continues to increase and despite the number of antlerless tags available. Our hunting culture glorifies antlers, and we need to make a serious effort to shift away from this and value deer as more than a trophy. CWD is skyrocketing in the county, and my hunting group does not eat CWD positive meat. I fear within my lifetime there will not be a healthy deer herd remaining at all, and we will no longer have the opportunity to share a meal of venison with friends and family. The CDAC is currently not provided the tools that are ample to address the overabundance of deer in Sauk County. The option to hold an antlerless only season is not sufficient, and even if it were utilized, it would stir resentment and retaliation among some hunters. We need to face the reality that we need more tools, specifically Earn a Buck needs to be brought back into the equation if we have any chance to make a difference. The clock is ticking, and our forests, crops, and car insurance premiums pay for it everyday.
- 17104 sauk countys deer population numbers are way off according to what the dnr is telling us. yes t here are pockets of deer, but overall the population is down. the variables in the information the dnr gives us are to great to give us anything more than a guess and according to the general publics comments the dnr are very poor guessers. the general consenus is people are seeing less and less deer yet sauk counties cdac commitee buys into unaccurate information to base there decisions. i think a member or two also have a private agenda to eliminate deer on properties they have interest in. if they think we have to many deer now they should have been around in the 70's which in my opinionis the only time we might have had to many deer. if we cant get accurate information to base our decisions maybe we should try to listen to the public comment and increase deer numbers. lets face the facts if we truly have cwd its here and here to stay its in the ground and in the plants we cannot control it
- 17105 When is someone going to get a clue, look how many extra tags are available and not purchased, yet the recommendation is lower the population and shoot more deer. The vast majority of hunters don't shoot more deer because they want MORE deer around. Our group of 8 hunters could shoot 16 does with the tags given out without even purchasing bonus tags, we shot 4. Who wants to pay for more tags. Every neighbor boarding my property feels the same. The DNR only looks at the number of deer officially harvested and registered in figuring numbers and quotas, we find numerous deer every year after hunting season, car kills and through out winter that are not counted as harvested-12 this year that I know of between 3 properties totaling 500 acres. What's the real number if I know of 12?? Also Predators (especially bobcats) have a significant impact on deer numbers. On our trail cameras last spring and summer over half our does didn't have fawns with them.



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- 17106 I would like to see a more simplified tag system. For instance if you hunt in two counties or zones you could buy tags for both areas instead of trying to figure out which zone to apply for the bulk of your hunting. For example if you have 2 antlerless tags for Sauk you could use one in Sauk and one in Columbia as long as both zones are in the southern farmland area. Maybe have a second drawing like turkey seasons are set up ? With 1st preference and 2nd drawing for additional tags ? This may create more revenue and give people a greater chance to hunt more than one place therefore helping kids get involved in hunting and not bored with it from going to the same place over and over. Personally I would like to hunt with my relatives over the holidays but currently can't because we are in different counties. Also registration stations would help bring business to some of the mom and pop businesses maybe make it optional to register there or online ?
- 17107 I strongly oppose Question 18 in changing the crossbow season. Why do we even consider making the rules more complicated than they already are. Plus if it wasn't for crossbow hunting, my father would not of purchased an additional 80 acres for our family. He did this because he was able to get back into the archery season of hunting, along with his 50 years of rifle hunting. Plus with him purchasing the land, we have been able to work with local NWTF by taking youth and mentor hunting opportunities for kids, along with kids youth hunt in October we have been successful on our 80 acres in helping kids harvest deer during this special season. So please don't separate the crossbow/archery season, its our hunting heritage and being in the field and woods is what SHOULD BE MOST IMPORTANT to all! Member of the NWTF, RMEF, WI Bowhunters Association, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Ice Age Trail Alliance, and Father of two Kids!!
- 17108 Earn-A-Buck worked in CWD areas. It is easy to identify the counties with the highest reported positives: Iowa, Sauk, Richland, in that order. To continually decrease the deer population in areas where CWD infection is growing (greater positives with fewer tests), Wisconsin needs to harvest more deer in these counties. The history shows a current decreased harvest of total deer, but almost a 1 for 1 in buck to doe harvest numbers. Hunters want to shoot a buck. In my opinion (a hunter who has personally harvested over 10 positives) forcing hunters in these areas to harvest an antler-less deer first will increase overall harvest numbers. Also, carrying the Earn-A-Buck into the Holiday hunt in these areas rewards hunters continually for harvesting antler-less deer first.
- 17109 In my opinion it doesn't matter how many doe tags you issue or how many bonus tags are available to purchase. It is up to each hunter if those tags are used or not. Most hunters I know don't use the doe tags they are issued, and don't purchase bonus tags. If I believe the deer numbers in my area are where they need to be or to low, the DNR will never convince me to use those tags no matter what their argument is. I have been deer hunting for over 50 years (YIKES !) and have seen a lot changes to the deer herd and deer hunting some good, some bad. Over that 50+ year period I have not been impressed with the overall DNR deer management plans. I am not sure what the answers are to all the management issue's , but issuing more tags doesn't seem to be the answer.
- 17110 I live on rural property between Spring Green and Plain. My concern over high deer population in our area originated by observing effects of deer browse on forest understory native forbs, shrubs, and young trees. In 2016 and 2017, I observed MANY more deer with CWD in our area, (specifically Wilson Creek valley) both dead and sick, and The increase of CWD is extremely concerning to me. I support the earn-a-buck approach, and increased antlerless harvest! Also I see no reason to protect the White Deer. This past week, as the pasture grass is greening, and deer come down to browse in early evening, I have counted an average of 50 animals in a 2/3 mile drive. Most appear to be yearlings. PS my family far prefers venison from young animals!
- 17111 I've been hunting northern Sauk county for 20 years now. The last few year the whitetail hunting has been pathetic. I've seen less deer than ever before. I also do not like the holiday hunt. You have 9 days of gun season to get a doe. And I also do not like all these 4 day doe seasons in December. Once the 9 day gun season is done leave it closed. Allow us bow hunters to have a chance at a deer in the late season. I am also concerned you want to extend the bow season due to bucks loosing their horns and does haveing fawns. I would not like to process a deer and finding a fawn. I would also be open for a longer muzzleloader season. I work full time so I only have two days to muzzleloader hunt. Thanks



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- 17112 I hunted an area of Conservancy Land outside of Sauk City. I saw 3 deer during bow season and I (and my 3 grown kids) did not see a deer during 4 days of the gun season. We went one day of the holiday hunt and also did not see a deer. I would like to hunt other DNR land but the DNR will not let you leave your stand up during bow and gun season. On the conservancy land they let you leave your stand up. It seems to work well. Can the DNR try that for a season to see how it goes. I'm too old to haul my stand in and out each day. There is such a huge difference in deer numbers between private and public.
- 17113 I have lived at Dutch Hollow Lake for 32 years and we have so many deer out here, it is sickening 2300 acres No Hunting except for 2014 when Act 71 allowed hunting here. We have a board of directors and there lawyer, who have decided to over ride Kleefisch decision. on act 71. The townships rescinded their ordinances to comply with act 71. We have an accident waiting to happen out here, with CWD Need help! My estimate and by the way I graduated from UW Stevens Point are 150 deer per square mile. Robert Nack DMAP specialist also agrees!!!!
- 17114 I think weather played a role during the gun season, and our deer sightings were down that week. However, during bow season, we consistently saw more deer than we have the past two years. With the overall kill down in 2017 compared to 2016, I think it remains to be seen if the herd size has decreased, in line with the county goal. The rapid increase in prevalence of CWD in the southern part of the county remains a significant concern. I wonder if mortality rate due to CWD is beginning to have an impact on the overall population.
- 17115 In the town of greenfield at least, we have been seeing less deer but our family's harvest totals are about the same. The concerning aspect is the seeing of less deer over the last 10-15 years. In my own personal opinion, we should go down to one antler less one antlered tag per license for a few years. But I also think certain parts of Sauk county have a deer overpopulation problem. So I truly believe that the CDAC will make the best decision and I'm just happy to be able to add my input. Thank you.
- 17116 As a land owner and farmer (130 acres in the unit) I would like to see the October early hunt brought back to increase the number of deer harvested. I do not bow hunt and this early season gave me an additional opportunity to harvest more deer, which I did in all years it was available. While I support the December and holiday hunts, it is often much harder to be successful that late in the season.
- 17117 Whitail deer are such a great resource for the state. I feel we have reached a good balance level in our unit and should maintain at this level. A lot of people feel the population has gone far too low and I too think that to be the case in some areas of our unit. There are a few small pockets that need a little more effort by land owners to better control the numbers by harvesti g more does.
- 17118 I think Saul county has a stable to growing population. The only real way to control over population in any county is earn a buck and the legislature took that option away. They should bring it back! CWD will increase and it will decrease our population whether we shoot the deer or not. The state isn't doing enough about CWD. The politicians aren't letting the DNR to manage the disease.
- 17119 to many areas of big woods where private property prevents deer from being harvested, and many of lose land owners will go on public or someone elses property to harvest does instead of there own land . therefore they are creating deer sanctuaries on there property that the numbers are very high on there land that never can be controlled!that is a reason why people are quitting hunting!
- 17120 I am not a fan of the holiday hunt. Deer become very stressed and I think with all our seasons it becomes too much for the deer. It's almost four months of hunting pressure and it's too much. When muzzleloader is over I'm glad the guns are out of the woods. The deer need to recover from the hunting, the rut ,conserve energy and get ready for what might be a bad winter. Thanks
- 17121 I hope that the extremely high density of deer in the Lake Delton area is being considered for specific control. I regularly observe many tens, if not hundreds, of deer south and east of the wilderness resort complex, near Hilman Rd, as well as along Cty hwy T. This is not healthy for deer, for cars, and I imagine the Wilderness golf course is unhappy as well...



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- 17122 We don't need a holiday hunt. The highest percentage of deer harvested is during the 9 day. Only thing the holiday hunt does is hurt snowmobilers from not being able to go through some of the land because some owners have the land leased for hunting and the lease is granted exclusive access to that land during hunting season, even if it is the holiday hunt.
- 17123 Instead of proposing more and longer seasons consider earn a buck for each specific weapon type and season. The earn a buck should not be unlimited as in the past and also should not carry over to the next year. Another option as other states do is a draw for buck tags and issue antlerless tags to persons buying a license but draw for buck tags.
- 17124 It doesn't matter how many antlerless tags you issue most private land owners still won't shoot does! I would like to bring back earn a buck as it was best for the herd. But it has to be capped at 1 buck tag. Before you could just keep shooting does and getting buck tags which I believe lowered the numbers too far and made everyone mad.
- 17125 I understand the tables that are used to see how many deer per acre are formed but those tables have not changed with the times I feel that the private land owner does more for food than your tables recognize such as food plots and logging please adjust accordingly and stop basing it on car deer collisions and old standers'
- 17126 EAB is desperately needed to provide a means to decrease the population. CDAC should do everything possible to reduce the spread of CWD. The CDAC needs more tools so as to be effective in meeting stated goals. At present the CDAC teams are all for show since they are provided no meaningful tools to meet goals.
- 17127 I believe the deer need a break from the hunting pressure from Sep - Dec. That's why I don't care for the idea of hunting into Jan. I also don't like the holiday hunt. There is ample opportunities to hunt prior, with muzzle loading season and the 4 day antlerless seasons right after the 9 day gun hunt.
- 17128 After extending hunts in State Parks and Conservancy, we see A Lot less number of deer. It has severely impacted the number of deer that we see. I think this policy should change as it also a safety issue. One of our family members was almost shot by someone hunting on Conservancy land.
- 17129 Crossbows for individual under the age of 65, and in good health, should be contained within the firearm framework and structure. Hunters 65 and over, or with physical disability, should be allowed to hunt with crossbow during archery and firearm seasons and structures.
- 17130 I am of the opinion that the gun deer season could be extended up to a week longer without seriously damaging the deer population. Also the current population is doing more damage to farmers crops and more need to be harvested this year than in years prior.
- 17131 Please for the love of God, simplify hunting in Wisconsin. Far too many seasons with certain weapon restrictions, doe only hunts, etc. I believe the holiday hunt should be state wide whether for or against it... personally I am very against it.
- 17132 deer are piled up on a few properties. the areas where the deer are killed do not have the numbers. you are making it difficult for hunters in those areas to keep hunting. NO one likes going hunting and seeing 1 or 2 deer opening weekend.
- 17133 With the increase in CWD, I believe we need a better testing system so hunters know the results timely and accurately. Until we know of the effects to humans we need to test all deer for the public safety timely and accurately.
- 17134 I have read articles saying that the crossbow seasons may be shortened. I would definitely be opposed to that. You want deer kill to stay level or increase that would be stupid to shorten season. Just my 2 cents. thanks
- 17135 I very much oppose any gun seasons past the muzzle loader seasons. Holiday hunts affect snowmobiling, woodcutting, snowshoeing, outdoor activities. The deer pressure is too much already. Stop the holiday hunts!



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- 17136 I support a Holiday Hunt to provide additional hunting opportunity and to harvest additional deer, especially when the deer I shoot during the early bow and regular gun deer seasons test positive for CWD.
- 17137 Hey college boys. Leave the deer herd alone or the private land owners will shut off hunting on their lands. Seems that everything you college boys touch you blow it up.
- 17138 The Buck to Doe ratio in the area that I hunt is grossly out of balance at >5 Bucks :1 Doe. Stop giving out so many Doe Tags!! 1 per license is more than enough.
- 17139 Find this a very unscientific and self serving survey designed to provide support for existing and recommended practices. Only real value is as an opinion survey.
- 17140 I appreciate that this CDAC is seemingly doing all that they can to decrease the deer numbers. The deer numbers are far too high in Sauk County. Good work.
- 17141 Too many free doe tags. ie: 2 per individual per licence. Suggestion, 1 per individual per for bow or crossbow and none for rifle.
- 17142 I heard that there is a push to stop open crossbow hunting. I do not support going back. Keep crossbow open to all hunters.
- 17143 Due to the decrease in harvest and the decrease in licences sold, this is an indication that hunters want to see more deer.
- 17144 I appreciate your efforts to provide unit-specific information to help inform my responses to these questions. Keep it up!
- 17145 All deer hunting should end in mid December. Get a larger concentration of hunters all at once. Kill more deer! Try it!
- 17146 DNR is trying to increase the deer kill, and surveys indicate hunters want to see more deer.
- 17147 Quotas are too high. This increases the push for for hunters to kill more deer for CDW.
- 17148 I would like to see objectives to curb the spread of CWD positive deer.
- 17149 If hunters don't see many deer, they won't be buying as many licences.
- 17150 Seeing fewer deer every year, and it's no longer a quality hunt.
- 17151 Dr reduced the quota in half, which is good, but still to high.
- 17152 Stop trying to reduce the deer herd to control CWD.
- 17153 I would like to see a October antlerless deer hunt.
- 17154 Crossbows for handicapped and elderly only.
- 17155 Eliminate free doe tags with each license.
- 17156 Shooting too many doe. Deer herds are low.
- 17157 Too many anterless only hunting seasons.
- 17158 Hunters want to see more deer.
- 17159 CWD testing is important
- 17160 Shooting too many does.
- 17161 Bring back earn a buck
- 17162 Want to see more deer.
- 17163 Increase the herd.



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Sawyer, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

144 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 44
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 38
I hunt in this unit: 128
General interest in this unit: 23

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 119
Bow: 77
Crossbow: 35
Muzzleloader: 31

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 29.22
Maximum: 68

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 19
Mostly Private Land: 14
Public and Private Land About Equally: 25
Mostly Public Land: 37
Exclusively Public Land: 32
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 5
Not too crowded: 16
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 32
Somewhat crowded: 21
Very crowded: 31
Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 9
Fewer: 35
Same: 56
More: 32
Many More: 9
Unsure: 3

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	6	13	35	47	40	2



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	14	31	42	43	9
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	14	30	41	50	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	11	126	6
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	61	73	9

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.27
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.58
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.00
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.46
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.16
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.15
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.03
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	1.99
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.75
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.46
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.34



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Comments for Sawyer, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17164 I agree with the Chair that the county needs to be re-zoned into sub-divisions in order to better manage the herd. If this were done, areas within the county that have high populations and are experiencing significant ag damage can be targeted for a more aggressive antlerless harvest (I would support doe-only harvests in these areas), while those areas with low deer populations (e.g., the National Forest) can be allowed to continue to recover. In areas of low deer population, an emphasis needs to be placed on aggressive predator control and logging (to encourage regeneration and supply browse), in addition to reduced antlerless or buck-only harvests. The county would also benefit by working towards implementing an antler point restriction to encourage a larger pool of more mature bucks, which would balance the age structure and create more opportunities for hunters to harvest larger, trophy-class bucks. I believe that the state as a whole would benefit by modeling non-resident hunting after Iowa's system, in which non-resident's apply for a license and are selected through a lottery; tags under this system cost approximately \$550. This would help reduce hunting pressure on public lands and also place a greater value on hunting in Wisconsin. Lastly, the crossbow season NEEDS to be separated from the archery system for most of the public (exception for disabled, etc.). A crossbow is not a bow, it isn't the same weapons platform or mechanism of action (you can't hold a bow at full draw indefinitely). Using a crossbow during archery season is the equivalent of using a rifle during muzzleloader season. I believe an excellent time to run the crossbow season would be concurrent with muzzleloader season.

17165 Section 1-3 of this survey was very understandable. Section 4 is very hard to understand what the scale of answers means. Does it mean whether or not we think the CDAC should be concerned or not with each of these concerns in their decisions or does it mean that we as the answerer should consider these concerns as being important or not? Very hard to understand how the answers in this section are going to be interpreted. Maybe this section should be a survey of respondents on whether or not the respondent thinks the CDAC should consider the individual concerns or not as they make their decisions. It seems that certain concerns get more weight than they deserve and as such tends to skew the CDAC's decisions. Last year the deer population seemed about the same as the previous year in the public forest. I saw a total of 8 deer the entire bow hunting and gun hunting season and we do a lot of deer drives during gun season. Of the 12 people in our gun hunting camp, some didn't see a deer and the most anyone saw was 9. Baiting should be outlawed state wide. Much of the problem with deer going nocturnal is that people put bait/feed out and the deer do not need to move to find their food so they feed at night and go dormant during the day. I get that store owners love to sell corn and people think they see more deer if they put corn out, but it has a detrimental affect and ends up concentrating the deer population instead of them being spread out through the entire forest.



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- 17166 After years of what I think was over harvesting we are finally starting to see a nice turn around in deer numbers. Changing anything to season structure or harvest tags is only going to hurt everyone. In the past few years I have noticed fewer hunters in the area of Sawyer county where we are and out of the hunters I have been around (my hunting group, neighbors, and ones I talk to will be afield) the success will be hunting not that great. Changing anything to season structure or limiting the choice of weapon (crossbows) and when you can use them is only hurting everyone (local economy). I used to hunt with a compound for 28 yrs and just switched to a crossbow because I couldn't pull my compound back. I think as sportsmen we should be doing everything in our power to keep people hunting and enjoying the outdoors. Instead of fighting and driving people away. There has been enough people that have walked away from hunting up here. I hope we can all work together as sportsmen to keep the wonderful tradition of deer hunting going and make everyone's time afield enjoyable. I hope we look at all the numbers before anything else, I've seen reports from one group that success rates are too high, then biologists and ecologists say the number is wrong and it's a lot lower than what that group claims. Remember we are all in this together! We are all sportsmen looking to enjoy the outdoors, family, friends and the hunting tradition together.
- 17167 1. Out of state hunters applying for tags should not automatically get them. Tag sales should not be a money grab for departmental budgeting. 2. Out of state hunters should be paying a significant premium for tags \$250+ Trust me they can afford it. I've seen their "shacks" 3. Buck only seasons are part of the problem. I hunt. A lot. I rarely see a mature buck 2 1/2+ years of age. 4. You cannot tell me the pack of coyotes I hear at least twice a week are not taking deer. your predation and winter kill estimates are skewed. Public land numbers are abysmal. 5. There should be no problem with instituting a minimum buck size for harvest for any hunter age 18+ i.e. minimum 6 pts. 6. There should be no problem with instituting regulation against harvesting fawns. 7. Last year I drove 200 miles south to finish off my season and I saw more quality deer in 1 hour than my entire season in Sawyer county. 8. Private land does hold more deer in general. All feeding should be banned. Deer are not livestock. 9. I love to deer hunt. If I had to endure two years of no tags being issued then I would be willing to do that just to see deer return to the woods. 10. I don't care what the car insurance companies whine about. I pay and pay and pay anyway.
- 17168 My family and friends that hunt with us walk almost 2 miles into the state forest to get away from other hunters. My dad has hunted up in the area for more than 50 years and I am going on 20+ years. Ever since we had the earn-a-buck like 10-15 years ago, the number of deer seen in the woods has decreased year after year. Now that the bear population and the wolf population is climbing, it seems that between the hunters and predators, the deer population continues to decline. I would love to see a year of zero antlerless harvested and see where that puts us the following year. If that increases the herd too much then you can issue as many antlerless permits as you would like to decrease the herd. The country in Sawyer county can support many more deer per square mile than we have right now. Not that tourism should dictate the health of the wildlife but the more deer up in the area the more the tourism will increase for the businesses in the area. The number of hunters coming to the northwoods now has drastically decreased ever since the earn-a-buck began the decline in deer populations.
- 17169 I believe the deer population has recovered somewhat in Sawyer, but it is not what it was or what it could/should be. Out of 10 hunters on over 600 acres of private land, only 3 bucks were seen during the gun season, 7 hunters never even saw one and we hunt hard all day long. The winter severity also appears to be very high this year, and with added snow and cold coming throughout the first half of April, it will be tough on the deer herd. The predators will have easy pickings due to the thick snow levels still around as they are able to stay on top of the snow crust, while the deer break right through. I have already found several deer kills on/around our property this winter. I believe that we need to grow the herd in this unit and believe that doe tags should not be available for the 2018 season. Don't sacrifice our deer herd for the next several years for the sake of a few more short term dollars. Go back to bucks only. I'd also like to see a bounty on coyotes as that population has exploded. Not to mention an increase in wolves/bears/bobcats as evidenced by our trail cameras.



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- 17170 The goal of "Maintain Herd" is absolutely off the mark! Some moderate growth was just beginning to take place when the goal was "Increase" and with the overall herd still below reasonable levels, Maintain becomes the goal? Public input is encouraged and then completely ignored, the ability to comment/have a respectful give and take discourse at the meetings is not allowed. The issuing of public/private land antlerless tags does not address the issue of farm vs forest land. A simple solution would be to designate State, County, and Federal Forest areas as separate management units and manage them as conditions dictate. There is private land in these areas which should have no antlerless tags issued. When attempting to address this at CDAC meetings, no discussion was allowed and excuses given why it would not work without even listening to opposing opinions. I am sure comments such as these fall on deaf ears, and as a result, I will cease attending further CDAC meetings. A truly sad situation which offers so much potential for future participation and success.
- 17171 As changes are made to make hunting essentially "easier" in an effort to recruit more hunters and sell more licenses (longer seasons, increased tags, improved technology, alternative weapons, expanding hunting age, etc), our deer population has suffered, especially on public lands. Predator numbers have escalated. With the exception of those who are fortunate enough to own quality land, the hunting has declined significantly. In my opinion, the best way to recruit new hunters is improve access to quality hunting which is not taking place at this time. Making it easier to harvest deer through the above changes may help sustain harvest numbers temporarily but does not necessarily bode well for long-term goals. Since harvest numbers play a large role in population estimates, today's estimates may be misleading compared to year's past. I support a goal of increasing the population. I also support reverting back to the hunter's choice tag (if antlerless harvest is allowed) rather than both a buck and doe tag, in an effort to keep the population in balance.
- 17172 Southern Sawyer Co , formerly unit 18, has again experienced a very severe winter on our deer ! WSI in our region will exceed 118 w/o any CRUST factor. With CRUST factor the number will be closer to 138. A crust which greatly troubled the deer was present in our area through the entire months of Feb & Mar and several weeks into April. As of April 7, we still have 28 " snow on the ground. This late extension of mid winter weather is the " fatal blow" for many of our deer. Predator numbers are still excessive and a combined bad winter with a huge predation factor will once again start to greatly decline our deer numbers. The Bluehills region definitely needs repetitive & unique considerations due to the altitude changes & very noticeable increase in snow fall each year. The coyote, bear, wolf populations are out of control !!!! This needs corrected in order to ever see a herd increase in our area. ** Summary: Two & a half months of deep crusted snow has caused serious deer losses in our area !!! Predators have greatly impacted those losses !!
- 17173 The public land is starting to slowly rebound from over harvesting of does, poor winter conditions, and predators. Please don't be pressured into giving antlerless tags for the public lands due to tourism or local businesses. The private lands need to be managed for crop destruction and over density. Public lands need to: *have more lumber/forest management *Increase the doe population by LOW quotas *Control the wolf and bear populations! We have hunted the Chequamegon for over 20 years and have seen the slow erosion of hunting quality due to the three above mentioned factors. I have hunted for over 40 years in many parts of the state. The northern forest is a tough, rugged area that needs watching due to the factors listed above. Last year as a whole was very slightly better...I have kept a daily gun season camp journal for over 30 years and it is tough to look back on the 00's- '15 due to the lack of deer. Good luck with your endeavor and thinking of each county as a separate entity. I think it will help.



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- 17174 Various members of our family have hunted white tail deer (bucks) for the past 100 years on private land in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. We have noticed the extreme changes in the deer population over these years. The deer population has gone from harvesting (monster bucks), to not even seeing a deer (male or female) for the entire nine day gun season. Although we understand the various views and concerns regarding deer hunting in the Northern section of Wisconsin, we support minimizing or eliminating doe tag issuance in Sawyer County. Our concern is to preserve this (natural resource through deer management) so that future generations of our family will be able to experience the same excitement of hunting trophy bucks that we have experienced over the years. We also support the deer processing stations that have been set up to support distributing various families or individuals with our harvested deer. A concept we have followed for as long as we can remember. Sincerely
Concerned Sawyer County Tax Payer
- 17175 Something needs to be changed. There is no reason that everyone is able to use a crossbow. There are very few big breeder bucks with good traits as opposed to 10-15 years ago. I agree that predation does play a role in this but this biggest reason in my opinion is the never ending deer season. I would be in favor of doing something similar to MN and how they handle there seasons each hunter is only allowed 1 buck per year regardless of the season. This would force hunters to be more selective and allow our deer to get more mature. The number of deer seen for me has steadily declined for the past 7-10 years. Hunting seasons need to be shorter for example not allowing bowhunting for a week prior to rifle season. After rifle season there should be a muzzleloader season and then hunting should be over for until next September. This would increase the herd size overall and make hunters happy. Nobody who is young is even going to want to hunt in a couple of years because you simply do not see deer.
- 17176 The native american night hunting is a ridiculous season. There are so many variables in this season that can't be accounted for. How anyone can believe that an accurate count of a deer herd can be done when you have native americans not having to record the number of deer, or where they are taken and the list goes on as to the things I am opposed about. In this day and age to call this a subsistence type of hunt is ridiculous. I realize this is a law, but I have heard nothing of anyone trying to make a change. As a matter of fact I don't believe that the D.N.R. has informed the public about this at all. It has been thru word of mouth that hunters are finding out what is happening with this night hunt. I wish someone would step up and oppose this whole idea or at least put forward some type of rules that have to be followed as to how many deer can be taken, registering deer taken, etc.
- 17177 I don't know, maybe I'm reading the "stats" wrong but it seems 1337 antler less deer were harvested last year and the quota was only 900. How can this be? After many, many years of hunting this DMU as well as observing deer on my property, I still think the quota is too high. I would like to see a 10% reduction across the board in the quotas as well as reducing the quotas by the number of DMAP tags permitted. I can live with the Maintain status for the DMU but you have to take into consideration increased predation (fur prices are at historical lows, relatively speaking, and trappers like my self are not trapping). This Winter is proving to be a long one; 20" or so still on the ground 4/3! I do think it is important, especially to landowners, that it's emphasized that you don't necessarily have to harvest a doe despite having a permit if you think the numbers aren't there!
- 17178 We (our hunting group) saw about the same number of deer as we have in the past several seasons, which are very, very few. This is throughout the archery season and the gun season. We were able to harvest one antlerless deer on the property, and that was one of three deer we saw all season long. This is between 4 hunters on our property. We saw no antlered deer at all, and two other yearlings. There needs to be an outlaw of baiting in our northern zone. Too many people are baiting, with absolutely no regulation on how much they can put out. ALL of our neighbors bait throughout the season. Deer hunting in our northern zone and in Sawyer County especially has been absolutely AWFUL for the past 5-6 years. We don't see any deer anymore, really at all. Time to start taking our kids some place else. Baiting has ruined hunting, and the DNR does nothing about it.



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- 17179 With the posted WSI for the Winter going to Park Falls area at the end of Feb., with the large number of days with crusted snow in March and April, with the amount of snow that the area has recieved in March and April, it is my opinion the CDAC comittee should consider lowering the number of antlerless tags offered for both public and private. There are only 5 names listed applying for deer damage shooting permits. I have seen the numbers listed in the March mtg. minutes for the damage amount awarded for 2016. This appears to be a very localized problem, and should not be a factor in a county wide antlerless tag quantity issued. Again, just my opinion. Lastly, in my opinion, if the comittee feels the need to have a quota of 850 antlerless deer harvested, you should look into changing the boundaries of the unit. Thank You
- 17180 Sawyer county is a huge county, with the southern portion containing some farm/crop land. As I hunt in N. Sawyer county, where it is primarily county and federal forest, the number of deer "back" in the woods, off roads, lake property, small housing developments, etc. is extremely low. We have about ten hunters that hunt out of our camp and in the last few years the average hunter see less than a half dozen deer. In the back woods there is less food and more predators. Be careful with how you conduct your counting methods, gauging the affects of predators and issuing of antlerless permits. I've witness the steady decrease in the number of hunters due to discouragement and also noticed the impact on local businesses. If you care to talk, please call LeLand Lueck 715.781.0183 (property owner in Sawyer)
- 17181 My reasoning for wanting the antler less quota to be lowered is due mostly how deer are registered now. Since people do not have to take deer in anymore I truly believe believe the deer kill was well above what the statistics show. While bow hunting this year I was constantly hearing gun shots out in the woods that I have not heard in other years. It is a known fact in the north woods that people are simply using guns during bow season as you do not need to take deer in to register. Secondly, this continued winter season will do the deer no favors this year. Having multiple feet of snow into April will not help the population at all. Along with this the continued presence of the large bear population and good sized wolf population means deer are facing constant pressure from predators.
- 17182 We have had three mild winters following back to back devastating winters so the deer herd finally showed some bounce back in 2017. I am very concerned about these quotas being set before the current winter is over! Recent weather is concerning due to deep snow and cold temps going into at least mid April. We could still come out of it ok but final quotas should be determined when we get through April. Deer can be lost quickly when winter weather hangs on in spring. I hope that CDAC is able to adjust numbers based on how the next month goes. I will also say that we can never go back to the days of unlimited doe shooting with wolves firmly established and less timber cutting.
- 17183 THE CDAC IS NOT TAKING THE CORRECT POSITION FOR DEER MANAGEMENT. THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ZERO ANTLERLESS TAGS IN 2017 AND THERE SHOULD BE ZERO IN 2018. PUBLIC LAND IS DEFICIENT OF DOES. I USE DEER CAMERAS IN MANY AREAS AND SAW 7/1 BUCKS TO DOES RATIO ON THESE CAMERAS THROUGHOUT 2016/2017. IF THIS APRIL 2018 CONTINUES AS A SEVERE (WSI) AND WE LOOSE ANY DOES, THIS LOSS IS DIRECTLY ON YOUR HANDS. GET THE HUNTERS/BUSINESS OWNERS/ TOURISM DOLLARS BACK TO WHERE THEY ONCE WERE. DO THE RIGHT THING. NO DOES TAGS FOR 2018. IF YOU NEED CROP DAMAGE TAGS IN THE VERY FEW AG LAND AREAS. CALL ME FIRST CAUSE I DONT BELIEVE IT EXISTS. I GOTTA SEE THIS FOR MYSELF TO BELIEVE IT.
- 17184 Our family hunting group has been deeply concerned about the disparities, during the annual deer harvest, between public and private lands. As we've been hunting only public federal lands for 40 years now what we've noticed during this time frame is that private land harvest success rates have consistently been much better than our public lands success rate. We know that the hunters in Sawyer County that own their own land are entitled to better success rate for antlered bucks but it seems from what we end up finding out their success on doe's really makes us not understand the difference regarding that harvest rate.



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- 17185 the deer herd in northern Wisconsin is starting to come back, do not need to kill off all the does again. the number of hunters in northern Wisconsin is at the lowest I have ever seen it .you do not even know it is opening day of rifle season anymore.hear more shooting the week before and saw no other riflemen in the woods during hunting season. did kill a buck last year but saw only three deer in nine days, that is hunting and not hunting.we are at the cabin for 11 days and that is the total deer I saw in 11 days. cant get into hunt in the area we use to hunt .gates are all locked and too old to walk the 5 miles in
- 17186 I am very concerned about the severity of this winter with the amount of snow experienced in the area along with the severity of cold. An over abundance of a variety of predators continues to plague the forest portions of the unit. This has a significant impact on deer numbers in these areas. I wish there was a better way to track the tagging registration of deer as I heard a number of rumors in the area where I hunt of people shooting antlerless animals on public land and tagging them with private land tags. This obviously skews the numbers and has an impact on public land harvest. Thank You!
- 17187 I have been bow and gun hunting the same stands in the National forest for 25 years and have taken some really nice bucks prior to 2008. The earn a buck and youth hunts coupled with the hard winters and predators has really taken its toll on the area that I hunt such that I only see 2 or three vehicles in a 3 square mile area that I hunt. I said this lat time I did the survey, give in State hunters and out of state hunters the option to shoot 1 deer, buck or antlerless and problem solved. I spent 10 days in the stand last bow season and only saw seven doe between the 8 stands that I set up.
- 17188 My main concern is allowing the youth hunters the ability to harvest a deer. I can live without shooting a buck or doe, I enjoy the time in the woods. I feel if the youth do not experience the hunt in full...bagging either a doe or buck, this tends to make them not interested in future hunting. I have noticed this with my nieces and nephews. A few years back when they were 12 they could not harvest a deer in Sawyer county. I can not convince them to come along hunting any more. I would sooner like to see lower private land tags and allow the youth to harvest a deer.
- 17189 There should be no antlerless hunting in the public land areas. Private farm areas is a whole different subject. We hunt in the public land areas. We are not seeing the fawns that we think we should. Over population of bears, wolves & other predators are taking many of the young deer. The DNR is making a Big mistake by offering antlerless permits in our public area. You need to raise the number of bear permits issued. Hopefully the wolf permits become available again soon. However, I think some hunters are doing there own thing regarding the wolf population.
- 17190 It looks like the deer are starting to come back. The deer heard has been way down in the area I hunt since the earn a buck year. I hunt the area between Count road B and Moose Lake along county road S. I don't think we should even think about another earn a buck season. In my opinion we should also keep the antlerless tags to youth hunters only. I have hunted this area since I was 12 yo I am 81 now, that's about 69 years. Guess I missed a few when I was in the army. When I first started hunting it was bucks only and had to be at least a forkhorn
- 17191 I have seen wolves on my trail cam before season. Deer have more predators now, than when I first started to hunt. I feel wolfs are hurting the deer heard. What controls the wolf heard, so that they do not over kill the deer heard. What is the actual yearly per wolf deer kill? I feel in my area that the deer heard should have rebounded by now. In past difficult cold weather years, deer have bounced back in about 3 years. I do not see this now. A grown wolf has to eat every day, and deer are there preferred food. Thank you for listening.
- 17192 The wolf predation in this deer unit is horrendous. I have seen more wolf on my trail cams thanks deer for probably the past 5 years. It's becoming very discouraging to hunters, especially the youth. And the last thing we want to see is the youth lose interest in the sport due to low or non-existent deer numbers. On top of that it is having a massive effect on the local economies during hunting season. Between the low deer numbers and online registration now being the norm, small northern towns are seeing a major decrease in tourism dollars.



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- 17193 I believe that the winter of 2017/2018 will result in a significant decrease in the deer population due to winter mortality. This combined with the moderate number of deer we encountered during the 2017 Archery & Gun seasons, make me believe that we should be looking to "Increase" and not just "Maintain" our deer herd in the forest areas. Due to that, I believe that antlerless tags should be left to only private landowners with legitimate crop damage concerns. No antlerless tags need to be given out for public lands in forest areas.
- 17194 Just started seeing more deer in the last year and the 2017 hunting season. I feel with the winter we are having this year that it would be pertinent too reduce the tag numbers for the next couple of years or so. We also are seeing quite a few wolves in our hunting area. I feel the deer herd has rebounded quite well the last few years but still needs to grow too see more deer consistently. I also worry about cwd coming too our area as many retired people moving into the area are feeding corn year around too the deer herd.
- 17195 i've hunted the norther zone my whole life, first with my grandfather and now with my son. with the increase in wolves and now cougars the deer population has been at a steady decrease. if you want to have a antlerless hunt keep it in the southern half of Sawyer county. leave the northern does alone.. we need the breeding stock for a number of years. I've only got a few years left to hunt and i would like to see more than 4 deer during nine days of active hunting.
- 17196 Although we are seeing more deer over the last 2 seasons, I don't believe you can take the affects of this winter and late spring lightly. By lowering the quota number I think you could avoid a crash of the herd again (due to weather) like we saw a few years ago. Lack of doe tags in the county is a touchy subject to some hunters but with the predators and weather putting pressure on an already fragile herd, I would be in favor of no does tags for next season.
- 17197 When we encounter a winter such as we have this year, the severity of the winter kill can increase during the late winter months of March and April. It is already into April and there is a significant amount of snow on the ground making it difficult for the deer to find food and get around to avoid predators. This type of weather needs to be taken into consideration when making decisions of harvest numbers in the Fall of the year during the hunting season.
- 17198 I have over a 50 year history of hunting in Wisconsin. The bucks We see prior to the season greatly outnumber those during the season. But at that point in time the lack of does in the area is not so much an issue. But during the season, and especially during the rut, with the lack of does In the area The bucks all but disappear, Going else where to look for does. This was not the case before show many doe licenses were issued.
- 17199 Until something can be done to control the wolf population, we will need all the antler less deer possible to keep feeding the wolves to maintain a reasonable deer population. It is so obvious to look at the deer harvest numbers decreasing along with the wolf population increasing over the last decade. We are going to have to be cautious until something can be done to manage the wolf population in the Northern counties.
- 17200 Only bucks with 8 or more points should be allowed to be harvested. Only one buck per season per hunter no matter how it is harvested. Make it illegal to harvested another persons deer; of any type. Do you want a quantity deer herd or a quality deer herd? Be a Leader is WI and have others follow Sawyer Co. Managing deer numbers alone will only get more deer....that is it. Thank you for all that you do.
- 17201 Although we have seen a slight uptick in the number of deer over the last two seasons, I believe unchecked predators as well as an extended winter could result in a dip in the herd again. With a Severity Index rapidly climbing toward the severe level and no quick end to the winter in sight, I would like to see the quota reduced by a few hundred and would not object to another year of no does killed.
- 17202 Stop playing a guessing game with the deer population! The deer population in Sawyer Co is the highest it's been in years! There are far more does than bucks in Sawyer Co! I hunt in Sawyer Co for the entire month of November, and I keep track of the number of does, fawns, and bucks that I saw. During the month of November I saw 93 does, 17 fawns, and 13 bucks! We NEED more does tags in Sawyer Co!



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- 17203 Over the last few years I have seen a drop in the number of bucks in the area. I have seen a steady rise of antlerless deer. My main concern is the number of wolves in the area. I have a large number of wolves that stay in my area. I have multiple game cameras set up which show many wolves in the area. I would like to see a wolf season open up again and antlerless tags given out.
- 17204 Some areas may still have relatively low numbers, but many locations find deer in nuisance proportions. Hunters will always harvest few deer where there aren't many deer, but the available land, particularly public land, support a quota higher than the one proposed. The county could likely handle double the antlerless tags issued in 2017 and still experience a herd increase.
- 17205 My property is in the very south west corner of Sawyer County. This area is very heavy to public land consequently agriculture in this area is not a significant factor plus the lack of existing deer. Please note on April 3, 2018 I measured 31 inches of snow in my woods. This winter's snow and cold is devastating to deer herd as I type this. PLEASE SPARE THE SURVIVORS!
- 17206 There is way too much public acreage to allow for so few antlerless tags. The mentality we're creating is that the locals can harvest a doe off their ability to hunt private land while others like our crew who hunt public land have little opportunity to draw an antlerless tag. It further pits hunters against each other where there is already enough of this going on.
- 17207 When there was "unlimited baiting". More fawns breed back their first year. The group I hunt with doesn't hunt over bait but all the other hunters in the area do. We saw a dramatic decrease in fawns having fawns, their first year do to the lack of "Corn" in the forest. Wolves have also dramatically decrease deer numbers around Spider Lake area.
- 17208 We are shooting all the bucks and the does are dry and useless. When we shoot only bucks for too long they will not be in the huntable population. When we allow baiting we privatize our public resource by drawing them to private land. When a wolf learns that you are baiting the same spot every year its a wonder you see any deer. Wake up!
- 17209 I attended last year's meeting when quotas were set. The CDAC ignored the audience, who wanted zero or a lower number of harvest. Two members have an agenda against deer, another is a non-hunter. Cards are stacked against deer hunters in Sawyer County. Total joke and deer hunting as we knew it is over in Sawyer County.
- 17210 I've hunted in this area for 25 years I've seen the wolf numbers climb greatly and deer number decline with no sight of management to control the numbers it's sad to say I feel sorry for the resorts that depended on the money from tourist we need to find a way to control the number of wolves in the northern forest
- 17211 I feel that we should have more buck only seasons in Sawyer county in the near future. The deer numbers don't seem to be increasing where I hunt. Too much predation from wolves and bear. Also, I hunt less than a mile from ashland county which was buck only. Not enough deer there. Let the herd build.
- 17212 The meetings are very informative and a good way to get information to people concerned about the deer herd. The Sawyer County meeting is well managed and civil. I do believe we need to keep politics out of our management of natural resources although there needs to be input by all involved.
- 17213 The past 2 seasons have seen a gradual increase in the number of deer we are seeing. With the ongoing winter being harder on deer this year than the past two and the forecast of it continuing for a few more weeks, I would like to see the antlerless quota reduced slightly to account for it.
- 17214 We own a cabin in in this county and its very hard to get young hunters interested in deer hunting when you don't see a deer in the woods during the deer gun season. Our hunting group had seven people in it last year and only one of the guys saw a doe and a small buck. Pretty sad hunt.



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- 17215 Public land hunting in sawyer county and is terrible, few deer are seen and when they are seen it is on private land driving by. I believe the population public versus private is way out of wack. I would be in favor of a closed season in this area until the population increases.
- 17216 Hello I have been hunting this unit around the town of winter since 1982 and I have seen the least amount of deer sign I have ever seen for at least the last five years . I think to many does and fawns are being killed by hunters and predators . Thank You KEN
- 17217 I'm pretty sure the DNR doesn't care about the deer. All they care about is who's paying the bills. Need some people that actually care about the deer. I'd be willing to bet that the majority of people that work for the DNR do not hunt deer
- 17218 There needs to be some way to reduce the wolf population in northern Wisconsin. When the DNR reintroduced wolves we heard the population would be controlled. This does not appear to be the case. Please reinstate the wolf season. Thanks
- 17219 Extremely disappointed owners of large tracts of private forest were able to get "extra" tags without knowledge of or input by the general public. Also discouraged permission was granted by the "central office", not local biologist.
- 17220 To many wolves. Wolves love Deer and Elk. Manage the wolves. There numbers grow because they have lots of deer and elk to eat. They are afraid of nothing. Stupid program for Wi. You bigshots wonder why the Elk herd no grow. Wolves.
- 17221 I would like to go back to buck only and band feeding/baiting statewide do to the increased risk of spreading CWD. I understand it's only a matter of time before its everywhere but it is extremely important to me to slow it down.
- 17222 Our northern forests in many areas are suffering due to locally high deer numbers. While the department can not micro manage the population, making antlerless permits available will help keep numbers in check with the habitat.
- 17223 It's time to give equal antlerless permits to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of the deer. For CWD reasons and private landowners using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 17224 We have 80 acres surrounded by all Forest land near the town of Winter. We had 7 people gun hunting it and only 1 person saw 2 does and 1 4point buck. I would have to say have no doe permits issued for 2018 season.
- 17225 I would like to see a slightly higher antlerless quota. I saw far fewer hunters last fall compared to ten years ago, finding enough hunters to adequately control deer numbers will be a problem in the future.
- 17226 You need to really think about lowering antlerless tags. Do to the late spring that we will be having. There is going to be deer mortality from the heavy snow that will be on the ground for most of April.
- 17227 I hunt primarily in the Nicolet-Chequamegon National Forest, and I believe the best thing that could be done to improve and protect the health of the deer herd is more logging and eliminate baiting.
- 17228 the numbers of deer are low but the number of predators are HIGH... is the DNR counting predators too???? they talk about keeping deer herd in check but nothing gets done about predators....
- 17229 We hunters are asked to contribute at county meetings in April, yet the county committee decides in March preliminary antlerless quota. In other words you are not concerned in hunter opinions
- 17230 This has been a very long and great tradition with my family and friends to alter this hunt with a doe only season would have a negative impact on both the community and many families.
- 17231 I would like to see parts of Sawyer county return to buck only zones for the gun rifle season only. That seems to be helping the overall rebuilding of a healthy forest land deer herd.



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- 17232 More public tags! Did you see the other counties around us for tags, rusk 5,00+, price6,00+, washburn 9,00+, bayfield 11,00+, barron 36,00+ and sawyer has only 2,500? whats up?
- 17233 The public hunting area will be very limited in its ability to improve the size and health of the deer herd without a significant increase in logging. Please expand logging.
- 17234 The concern about tree seedling brouse is being under valued by this county. It appears the group is too concerned about forest owners getting too many antlerless permits.
- 17235 Numbers are still to low. But we are finally starting to see does with more than one fawn. Which is a trend in the right direction. Less doe tags than last year would help
- 17236 The deer population is still recovering in my opinion we should leave it to bucks only until the unit recovers more. Less hunters are hunting because their seeing no deer.
- 17237 WSI in the SW corner is well over 100. This is a big concern for those who live and hunt that area. As of today 4/4/18 there is 32" of snow on the ground.
- 17238 There is plenty of Ag land in southern sawyer county and private land antlerless tags need to be available to keep deer numbers in check in this area.
- 17239 Our bear population seems to be too high, I have witnessed bear hunting the fields for fawns and feel bear predation on the fawn crop is fairly high.
- 17240 too few hunters and too little pressure, seeing deer a challenge during the firearms season, what impact are wolves having on the numbers..
- 17241 In the interest of CWD and other deer diseases spreading throughout the population we should be strongly considering banning baiting!
- 17242 Great job in hitting your harvest goal right on! Keep science in your decisions. Way to work together on your very hard job.
- 17243 I feel the late snowfall and prolonged winter will negatively affect the herd and should be taken into consideration.
- 17244 What about the public hunter that has no private land to hunt but has lots of does on public land, where is our tags!
- 17245 The deer numbers are still considerably low for the amount of public land available for the deer to roam and feed.
- 17246 Better law enforcement around FCL and the use of ATVs. See way too many using them on properties closed to ATVs.
- 17247 Cross bows need better regulation and winter deer severity for this year needs to be taken in consider
- 17248 I saw fewer deer last season but heard more wolves. I recommend opening season on wolves.
- 17249 We need to get our deer population back to where people come to Wisconsin to hunt
- 17250 No Antler less tags for the Public. Land owners only please. We pay the Tax.
- 17251 I would support a minimum number of points on antlered deer.
- 17252 There are too many coyotes and wolves
- 17253 Thanks for your work.
- 17254 Too many wolves
- 18070



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Shawano, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

153 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 42
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 22
I hunt in this unit: 140
General interest in this unit: 19

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 132
Bow: 91
Crossbow: 60
Muzzleloader: 63

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 25.35
Maximum: 61

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 111
Mostly Private Land: 15
Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 6
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 8
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 27
Fewer: 31
Same: 71
More: 19
Many More: 5
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	8	17	69	41	16	2



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	4	6	62	45	27	9
Bonus Tags - Public land:	2	12	55	44	28	12
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	9	62	79	3
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	52	85	16
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	74	65	14
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	21	122	10
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.58
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.83
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.35
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.59
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.19
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.09
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.45
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.58
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.49
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.05
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.51



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Comments for Shawano, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17255 I've hunted on my 40 ac. for 51 years and the deer population is higher now than ever. I saw numerous deer during the bow season and none during the 3 days of hunting during the gun season. That's just how it goes it doesn't mean there aren't any deer. There were 3 of us and we shot 2 bucks opening day. Just because hunters don't see deer during the deer gun season doesn't mean the numbers aren't high in the lower 2/3 of the state. The biggest single issue that has not received any attention by DNR or anything written about hunter success in each season is how wet the conditions are during fall leading up to the 9 day gun season. Last 4 years in a row most swamps, marshes, etc have been too wet and unfrozen so hunters cant get in and deer head there and stay there and aren't pushed. This is a major factor in low success numbers coupled w/lower hunting pressure and reduced driving of deer. Every effort should be made to reduce the deer population and make it easier for hunters to get in the woods and if not deer levels will become a crisis in this state. The DNR and politicians are taking hunters time for granted and underestimate the importance of hunters. Hunting isn't the only thing in our lives. Holiday hunt?? Who has time to day that. Same w/4 day antlerless. Don't change the xbow season because a few hunter bitch because they didn't get a deer. Tell them to buy a xbow and get out in the woods in the rut which will ultimately teach them more about deer and make them better hunters. Thanks

17256 I would like see baiting [2 gallons]after gun season ONLY. I dont think it fair these game farms are able to contain deer in a one fence area, and transport infected deer, and we cant go out and SCATTER a little corn or apples and have some enjoyment too. I would support a Holiday hunt if I could bait and hunt till Jan. 31. I and my son enjoyed late season bow. We would SCATTER a little corn by our stand and hang a camera nearby to get some pictures . We harvested a few nice bucks and passed on smaller ones and always took a couple does. Late season was our Doe Season. We dont hunt late season much anymore. We had 4 deer seasons, Bow Season, Gun Season, Muzzle loader Season, and our Doe Season. I dont think at this time of year it would interfere with other hunters who thought baiters were hoarding all their deer, and same hunters probably are not shooting any more deer since it was banned either. SCATTERING corn or apples cant be any different than acorns falling from a oak or apples from a tree. Why can a farmer have a corn crib or a pile of corn behind his barn? My son shot his first deer [Doe] evening of Dec 30 2001 over a bait, we found it the next morning on the last day of the season. We began to look forward to Late Season not anymore. Deer hunting has changed so much, and not for the better. Its all about selling a license.

17257 I would like to know what the deer population goal actually is? The state harvest is at 30 year low numbers and Shawano county is at 20 plus year low numbers, excluding two years 2009 post earn a buck and 1993 fluke. The notion to maintain and not increase the population is a very poor decision. Giving out 3 antlerless tags per buck tag is absolutely ridiculous, the herd is still trying to recoup from earn a buck. With 23 straight days of gun hunting, there never should be a holiday hunt ever. Crossbow season has to be shortened, it will be a matter of time before the population starts to decrease. Recent data shows crossbow hunting is even more successful than gun hunting. This will only reduce the age structure which is already low. Fawn recruitment is extremely low, you can literally watch them die off one by one all summer long on the trail cameras. And I have the evidence to back that up. I see comment after comment and talk to a lot of people about hunting, everyone says its tough to see deer. Except for a couple hot spots around the state which then ruins it for everyone else. Most people say the see a couple of does and maybe a small buck. The only way to get the age structure back up is the increase the herd, and not hand out 6 doe tags per person.



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- 17258 Very surprised at the MAINTAIN objective. The population has been increasing ever since the DNR was forced to hand over their power to scientifically manage the herd. Now the management decisions are made by people with no training in wildlife management and allow their opinions overrule facts. Snowmobile clubs need to back off their opposition to holiday hunts since the trails are rarely open then anyway. The late hunt would be another tool for landowners to further reduce the herd on their own land. Lastly, to all hunters in Shawano County...PLEASE consider a doe only season. Be open to (god forbid) not shooting a buck every year. Embrace a doe only season, have fun with it and use it to manage for quality deer on your property. Imagine all the bucks that will be allowed to live another year; the two and three year old deer that aren't harvested by you and your neighbors are magically three and four year old deer the following year. All it is going to take is one county to adopt the antlerless only season and other counties will follow once word gets out of the giant deer taken the following year. Just my two cents.
- 17259 I still see year after year the decline of any larger size bucks. Year after year the nubby buck fawns are the ones getting harvested. They have zero / no chance of getting older and becoming larger sized deer. This strategy continues and there seems to be no effort in changing the minds of any hunting advisory groups out there, including the DNR. In my opinion and opinion of other hunters, lets have a minimum requirement of a must have at least a fork horn size rack in order to be harvested. I believe maybe a one to two year trial of this would definitely help in getting those nubby bucks to grow into larger deer. The number of antler less permits and bonus tags that are being recommended are way too high and we will see nothing the next year, in 2019 as some people will harvest any size deer. To give each person a buck license, plus three doe tags is crazy in my opinion. The continued increase of the wolf population around and in Shawano County areas are killing way too many deer and it shows. There needs to be something done, in one way or another a management plan, otherwise we will not see any deer in the future.
- 17260 From what I have seen, even with game cameras, the opinion of the number of deer in this area is greatly overstated. Even the people I have spoken with in the area feel the same. We see deer, but not nearing the amount that the CDAC thinks there is. Further for the past 2 years with all the extra tags all we have heard and seen is a lot more reckless shooting and people wounding deer without killing them. THIS SHOULD BE ONE OF YOUR FACTORS approve. The tags make those that hunt the 9 day hunt that much more aggressive just to kill deer and that is said especially for hunters like me that are in the woods from mid-September until January respecting the sport and the wildlife! For these reasons a holiday hunt is far better than a ridiculous amount of extra tags. Getting 8 tags between the gun and bow season is ridiculous and a waste. Create the extra hunt for those that truly want to hunt and provide specific tags for that hunt. Making the 9 day hunt antlerless only would be complete disrespect for a lot of hunters we have hunted the right way and put a great deal of time into it. Thanks for allowing the input
- 17261 I have heard that there are hunting groups that are raising their biased concerns of crossbow hunting with regard to buck kill. This is due to their perceived efficiency over compound bows. Though the short term statistics show a buck kill success advantage over vertical bows which from the DNR Data from 2017 was 16% for vertical bows versus 24% crossbows the actual numbers of bucks killed by vertical bows is higher than crossbows which is 19,645 for vertical bows versus 16,096 for crossbows. So it is a matter of how you look at the data. I am not 65 and would not be eligible for a handicap permit, but I have switched to a crossbow due to age and the fact that it has become harder for me to pull back and hold a vertical bow. Not being able to pull the bow as well as I use to and hold it would only lead to bad shots and I am not going to do that. The proposal is to limit crossbow hunting to non rut time periods. This is nothing but a selfish and opinionated argument. If this change is made I and others I know will simply quite bow hunting all together. Sad.



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- 17262 I've hunted in this state for over thirty years from the north woods of Vilas CO to the southern Kettle Moraine. It is a tradition I want to continue with my son, but is evermore difficult when we simply see less deer every year. This last season was by far the worst ever, between me and my son we were issued 7 doe tags for Shawano Co. We hunted the public and private land around Navarino. Given the large amount of territory we covered, we didn't see a single tail. Even the land owners where we hunt have seen a great drop in numbers. While I do think predators are definitely a factor, the over issuing of tags is the main problem. I would like to see a hunter issued only one buck and one doe tag per license statewide. Many hunters I know are looking to fill their freezers from states out west now, because they are so discouraged. I do not have the means to hunt in a state like Wyoming, so I implore you to listen to my words as father who is trying to keep this tradition alive.
- 17263 We need to turn Wisconsin into a quality destination hunt rather than a killing hunt. I would sacrifice a year without the opportunity to kill a buck in a heartbeat just to see the potential for the following year. I own property in Missouri as well where we have a 4 point restriction and that seems to work great. People need to be educated on the potential and the DNR needs to realize that out of state tags should be able to fetch a premium - just like Iowa and Kansas. Start with a township, have the landowners vote and let others join as the years progress - but set a quota goal for does as well (not just the broad antlerless statement) Does! My suggestion is to start in the township of Morris - where my land is. if the vote doesn't pass, at least you tried something...and you can hold it over the heads of the owners in the future. "We gave you every opportunity back in 2017....so no more complaining.....
- 17264 I have been hunting the family farm, (320 acres) since I was 15 years old. Prior to that there few to no deer in the region. Some of the neighboring wood land is owned by a lumber company which has changed hands. That land is now leased to hunters and is closed to open access. Other nearby property is now a fenced in pay-to-hunt property. It blocks what used to be a natural corridor for deer traffic. Almost all neighboring property is now posted and is frequently laced with standing corn fields. Deer are no longer forced to move during hunting season and quickly find refuge. That explains why there are fewer deer seen and fewer hunters in the region. That does not explain why I see fewer deer in spring, summer and fall. Still, in Shawano County, you do not have to drive far to see too many deer. Could timber maturity be the reason?
- 17265 In my hunting observations, I find that the more people coming and going into the woods the spookier the deer get. When they turn nocturnal, it is hard to get a shot at them. How do we harvest deer when they don't show up until after dark? GOOD QUESTION. Deer have to eat. Food plots serve two purposes one of which makes a healthy heard. By the same token the agricultural fields feed deer before the crops are taken off. Have you considered giving the landowners more hunting options? Possibly a special land owner hunt? Just thinking out of the box a little. I am a sit still hunter. When my neighbors start making trips in and out of the woods, that does not seem to move the deer to me. As for deer along the roads, I don't know what to think there. They sure are dumb when they have to run into your vehicles!
- 17266 I realize that there are locations in Shawano County that have an overabundance of deer. Unfortunately, I have seen fewer and fewer deer in the area that I have access to hunt (both before and during the deer season). The past 2 years I did not even see a deer during the days on the first weekend of gun deer season. I did see a few next to the road when driving home at night. Otherwise, I would have thought all of the deer had vacated the area. Might there be a way to encourage deer to move from the concentrated areas. With more hunters just sitting, nothing gets the deer moving, so areas with high concentrations of deer continue to have high concentrations. We need a way to make the deer move and spread out.



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- 17267 With many years hunting private property- I can recall seeing double or triple the deer I do now for both gun and bow seasons. I don't attribute this to land demographics changing as they have remained the same. We have wolves and just more people hunting now which have decreased this. With whitetail management- I wish WI hunters and DNR would pass a legal 4point rule on each side to harvest antlered deer. This would decrease the kill of young bucks and provide a much higher quality hunt! I have been to other states with this rule and it was unpopular at first (as I'm sure it would be in WI) but the locals and everyone now greatly support it for what it has done to improve the hunting experience.
- 17268 The Wolves in the County are fast diminishing my opportunity to see and shoot deer!!!! Hopefully in the near future legislatures will find a way to reopen the season and allow a healthy quota to kill the menace. Also the legislatures need to be more active with deer farms--double fencing, CWD monitoring, compliance etc. I believe it won't be long and CWD will be in the counties wild herd through the fault of deer farms and the current lax of regulations and control!!! In the end it will be us deer hunters problem!! GOOD BYE HUNTING---- DNR don't forget the motto "KEEPING THE TRADITION" because it's slowly evaporating. The tradition!
- 17269 I saw more wolves than deer. The wolves are moving south because the deer herd up north is decimated and they're searching for food. I don't want what happened up north to happen here. I know a lot of hunters that quit because of the lack of deer and I don't blame them. I enjoy hunting and hope to have a many more years of doing so, but I will not waste my time by sitting in the stand not seeing deer, I have better things to do. I also oppose my license fees going to reestablish the elk herd to feed the wolves. Total waste of money. If you would like to have the revenue of years gone by, lets work alittle smarter, not harder.
- 17270 I don't understand why the state is trying to regulate baiting and feeding so heavily, especially when the only reason Shawano, Oconto, Waupaca, and marathon counties were put into the bait and feed ban is because of deer farms where there is a higher population of deer in a concentrated area. Higher numbers, smaller area of course means more contact through out the year between the deer. You guys seriously need to consider changing the law when the sole reason is deer farms. Also, stop denying that wolves are ruining the deer populations around the central part of the state. You guys need to do something about them.
- 17271 I would like to be able to see just one deer on average ever time I go out. that would keep me hunting a long time. I have been have a hard time seeing deer because of the amount of does being shot where I hunt. I think there should only two doe tags and one buck per license. I think it would help me and the youth coming up in the sport. and keep the sport alive in Wisconsin. My family own a farm and we have never had any problems form deer destroying any of are feeds. I would like to bring my children in to the sport in the next few years but I know that if they don't any luck they will not want to go.
- 17272 I feel that getting more hunters in Wisconsin is very important as the number of hunters continues to decline. This uproar on crossbows is nonsense as it sells more license, gets more hunters involved and everyone can participate in deer hunting any way that fits their life style the best. No one is told that they can't use a crossbow and the hunters with crossbows are NOT shooting all the buck deer before gun season. The next thing we will see people complaining about is someone has too nice a rifle and scope and the next hunter doesn't so they'll want to ban nicer guns !!!
- 17273 The cross bow season is way too long and has open the door for a lot of bad hunting ethics. I know there are many so called hunters who have bought cross bows and now are sitting over corn piles. The true archery hunter is having the chance to kill a trophy buck go to these types of hunters who have ruin many of hunts. I have no problem having a separate cross bow season of about 9 days and allowing seniors or handicap hunters to have a longer season. All you have to do is drive around and see all the gas stations selling corn in every county and you know what is happening.



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- 17274 I believe that deer numbers on private land are reasonable but public land needs improvement. I understand that pressure and lack of public lands in my area are both largely contributing factors to the lack of deer sightings but there are also smaller herd numbers in those areas due to over-harvesting. I would like to see more power given to landowners and license holders to manage the herd as they see fit because one piece of property can be vastly different from another even though they may be close in proximity. The carrying capacity of each parcel being the concern.
- 17275 I believe the herd in the western part of the county was at a near perfect level in 2017, finally fully bouncing back after some tough winters (2012/13 perhaps?) The amount of 2.5 and 3.5 year old bucks seem to be slightly down, but I'm guessing it is more of a very local dynamic than a big picture thing. My deer management philosophy and opinions are based on a plan that mimics QDMA's. I believe in passing young bucks, I believe in doe harvests of all age classes, and strongly agree with going where the science takes us over public opinion
- 17276 the deer season as a whole,--sucks--with the wolf,bear and coyote killing fawns,--I cant believe you as experts,cant figure it out,ive been hunting for a lot of years,and usually get a deer,the last 5 years,worst I have I have ever seen,didnt even shoot last year,bow or gun,i buy a patrons license every year,if things don't get better and change soon,count me out,it is so depressing,i hunt public and private,the deer numbers are way way down,i bite my tounge when to say what I really want to say,get your act together
- 17277 The goal should be to DECREASE the herd, and not maintain. Deer are doing a tremendous amount of damage to forests and habitat. I understand the CDAC committee has limited options. I support the 3 tags. It is time to start having a Holiday Hunt season. It is probably the next best option available to harvest more antlerless deer. Snowmobile trails were open for what, 2 days this winter? Not having a Holiday Hunt because of concerns of the snowmobile org is not reasonable.
- 17278 Shawano County has lost acreage to public hunting due to the changes in MFL laws. Yet, you are proposing issuing the same number of permits. Doesn't seem logical. Shawano county should be split into 2 different DMU's. The eastern portion of that county seems to have less of an over population than the west end. On my land (Town of Washington) we have some deer browse damage, but yet we have oaks, white pine and a few cedar re-generating on their own.
- 17279 Eliminate the crossbow hunt for the truly disabled or over 65. Crossbow technology is crazy effective and getting a deer is stupid easy. There isn't much left to hunt during gun season due to the crossbow. Archery is supposed to be more difficult that's why the season is longer. If you can't handle the archery challenge just gun hunt. With the crossbow we just dumbed down the sport. We are losing gun hunters because of this change me being one.
- 17280 Unit size is impossible to effectively manage herds, some area in this unit is highly populated with deer and some not, some area in this unit have low hunting pressure and some has very pressure. High pressure units have less deer and more nocturnal herds while, low pressure areas in this unit have larger herds with high daytime deer activity.
- 17281 Youth hunts should not be allowed. Adults are using youth hunt tags to harvest their own deer. Youth hunts can be done during regular archery and hunting seasons. The hunting youth age is set way too young. Kids have plenty of time to hunt when they get mature enough to have respect for a weapon and the animal, and not just going out to kill.
- 17282 Extending the archery/crossbow season would benefit everybody, economy, and deer population. The amount of deer i see in shawano county is very plentiful! Every where i go, i see a good amount of deer. I would like to see a holiday hunt also in shawano county. Thank you for all u guys and gals do! Stay safe
- 17283 I have seen a steady decrease in deer numbers over the past number of years and we continue to see more predators than ever before. I feel hunting pressure and predators are greater than ever and the number of deer seen has decreased accordingly. More tags and antlerless hunts is not the solution.



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- 17284 I live and hunt adjacent to a CWD positive deer pen in western Shawano Co. Private land deer hoarding using illegal baiting and feeding is rampant. We are over run with deer. Please employ any tools available to get the deer herd under control. The future of deer hunting is at stake. Thank You
- 17285 Only get to choose - 1 buck or doe tag license goes to \$25 Shorter Bow Season Cross bow license under 62 should be much expensiver have a rule of 6-8 pts or more otherwise a heavy fine. Sad to sit so many hours a year and hardly see any deer except the same 3(doe and 2 little ones daily
- 17286 Seems the DNR the last years have given the public a chance to steal our natural resources. No guns cased Registration on line Anyone can use a crossbow to bow hunt What do we need the DNR for? There is no accoutability anymore!! No one to preserve our natural resources anymore.
- 17287 I do believe there are too many does in Shawano County, but hunter numbers/conservation funds will continue to drop if you limit/remove buck tags. One way to increase doe harvest is to encourage hunters to use deer-donation programs. I am one who is unsure how to donate a deer.
- 17288 I think to get the public lands more hunter friendly, they need to shut down public hunting for one year. The private landowners do tonggod of job at managing the deer herd that deer feel safe and have no desire to leave and go to a overly pressured woods.
- 17289 Thanks to the inaction by the governor, legislature, and the DNR on game farms, baiting, and feeding, CWD is basically statewide. Your survey does not even address this threat to our state hunting heritage. Aldo Leopold would be embarrassed.
- 17290 I oppose holiday hunt and extending the archery season simply because the number of bucks that drop their antlers in December. I have seen too many cases where a deer was harvested and tagged as a doe but was a buck who dropped early.
- 17291 Do not shorten the archery season that is the time of the year for us old people to hunt when it's not so cold I hunt archery and that's what I enjoy taking that away would mean no longer buying license archery or gun
- 17292 I am not your typical Wisconsin Deer hunter, I believe that we need to harvest antlerless deer to keep a healthy herd. I believe we also shot the largest bucks when there was an earn a buck program. Thank you.
- 17293 Since the wolves moved in the deer population has decreased. This has been an issue for years now; with no solutions possible. I realize in areas without this problem the population of deer may be different.
- 17294 Not giving out as many antlerless tags with license purchase and making people buy bonus tags if they want to shoot an extra doe. That might help a little more with revenue too if it would go state wide.
- 17295 The deer heard is coming back but still is too low. Where I hunt I have always seen many deer, but for the past 4 years I have not seen even one. I haven't even seen and signs of deer any where.
- 17296 If you decide to go with an antlerless only hunt I along with the rest of the guys I hunt with will not buy a license for this season. We see very few antlerless deer in our area up by Mattoon.
- 17297 I feel that when forming the hunting seasons all anyone cares about is hunting and deer population without any consideration for our snowmobile season which is short enough thank tou
- 17298 I would support 1 total buck per year, not weapon specific I would support 2 total bucks per year, not weapon specific, with the second buck needing at least 4 points on one side.
- 17299 I would like to see group hunting be limited to 3. Sick of having 20 people at a time drive the woods n kill every deer they chase out. That to me is not hunting it's slaughtering.
- 17300 The bear population is growing to fast and the hunting season is too late for baiting. The bear leave the baits and are in the cornfields by the time the season starts



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- 17301 Still Not seeing Deer Numbers like I use to. Winter tracking show much less Deer than years past. Bring back baiting, CWD has nothing to do with baiting & feeding.
- 17302 I believe you should take into account the longer winter before releasing the numbers for the 2018 season. Crossbow should be for disabled hunters only!
- 17303 Allow baiting on private land in 2018. Shawano was closed for past several years due to one incident on a private deer farm.
- 17304 I would support antler restrictions and 1 buck tag with the option of a 2nd with the harvest of a doe. Thanks.
- 17305 I would support having a crossbow season that is shorter than upright traditional bow.
- 17306 Not in favor of the large number of deer being eradicated through the use of Ag tags
- 17307 I would like to see a buck only tag to be sold as well cost 25.00 for buck tag
- 17308 17 acre field....counted 46 deer. Waaaaay too many. Bring back earn a buck.
- 17309 Too many wolves, like I'm sure you're hearing from most hunters.
- 17310 I am not in support of crossbow hunting during archery seasons.
- 17311 In doing some shed hunting in March i did find 3-4 wolf kills.
- 17312 Earn a buck needs to be implemented as a tool for the CDAC.
- 17313 There should be NO charge for bonus antlerless tags!!!
- 17314 Deer tracker should have to purchase a guide license
- 17315 antlerless hunt late September versus holiday hunt?
- 17316 No earn-a-buck please.
- 17317 Too many wolves
- 17318 None
- 17319 none
- 18071



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Sheboygan, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

111 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 80
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 18
I hunt in this unit: 80
General interest in this unit: 21

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 69
Bow: 51
Crossbow: 32
Muzzleloader: 29

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 24.16
Maximum: 54

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 29
Mostly Private Land: 18
Public and Private Land About Equally: 19
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 10
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 16
Not too crowded: 19
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 6
Very crowded: 3
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 18
Fewer: 30
Same: 43
More: 12
Many More: 2
Unsure: 6

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	6	37	36	22	9



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	11	16	68	0	3	13
Bonus Tags - Public land:	12	14	68	1	2	14
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	4	13	54	9	4	27
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	7	11	48	13	3	29

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	5	39	61	6
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	16	58	9	28

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	26	82	3
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	42	65	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	8	93	10
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.46
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.99
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.70
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.65
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.26
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.17
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.63
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.52
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.58
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.74
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.58



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Comments for Sheboygan, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17320 I've been involved with deer hunting my whole life and love the traditions and history of the sport in Wisconsin. I would love to see the Muzzleloader Season extended through the 2nd weekend into a 13 day season or skip a week after gun and do a 9 day weekend to weekend season and abolish the antlerless holiday hunt or antlerless hunts in general. It seems to be almost impossible to kill deer during the late archery season also because of all the pressure from antlerless hunts. I'm all about balancing buck to doe ratios but I think some individuals take advantage of bonus tags and have heard of people "bragging" about killing 4 or 5 does by themselves! Usually the same people complaining that they don't see many deer the following season. Not to mention a lot of these deer end up being yearling bucks. I hunt hard and spend more time than most people deer hunting. One thing I know for sure is that I've seen a lot more deer 20 years ago before T-zones or Holiday hunts. And I think most avid hunters would agree. I think 1 buck tag and 1 doe tag per hunter for archery and 1 each for gun is perfect. Wish backtags were back too. And registration stations. I always thought one of the best things about the tradition was getting together with other hunters and telling "deer stories" or just being able to see what other hunters harvested. That doesn't happen anymore and it took a toll on small businesses. The system now seems to make it a lot easier for people to not register deer or buy a license at all. This is something I'm extremely passionate about and really care about conservation and the preservation of the Wisconsin Deer Hunting Tradition. I believe a lot of this will help interest the younger generations for the future and help keep the tradition going! Thanks!

17321 Any proposed extension of the hunting season needs to be scrutinized extensively. Changing the hunting season affects more than the deer population. Bikers, hikers, and snowmobilers will be impacted. Not to mention the business owners that gain revenue from those activities. The hunt crowd sometimes has no care for those who don't hunt. I suspect the current rules have been in place for some time with only minimal impact on other persons that use the lands used by the hunters. But the proposed extension to January 31 will adversely affect the other users of the public forest and private lands as well. Our winter sports season is too short as it is, don't take another month from those who either pay registration or buy park passes to use the trails. Thank you for the time and opportunity to voice my opinion and concerns.

17322 I believe the crossbow season is too long and needs to be shortened due to the large increase in bucks taken via crossbows the past three seasons. The dramatic increase in range on most crossbows has given a huge advantage to hunters during the long season. Crossbow companies are now advertising the crossbow as "YOUR NEXT RIFLE". I believe this is one of the main reason gun hunters are having less success during the gun hunting season. If the crossbow season is not shortened, then I believe the state should allow only one buck tag a season for all types, like in the state of Minnesota. It can be filled for either gun, muzzleloader or bow/crossbow during their respective seasons. We no longer afford to issue two buck tags, one for gun, one for bow/crossbow if the seasons are kept they way they are now.

17323 Please please please avoid a holiday hunt. The areas needing reduction are not able to be gun hunted anyways. A holiday hunt only decimate the already slim populations in rural areas. Plus the holiday hunt prevents the bow hunters from thinning the over populated subdivisions. (Bow hunters don't like orange that would be required if holiday hunt). The hunters who are trying to lower numbers in these subdivision type areas also run out of bonus tags. Why such a low number of bonus tags, yet give 2 farmland tags to each gun hunter licence, most of which only hunt one weekend a year?? I'd recommend one doe tag and the surplus available for sale to those who actually could use additional tags. Plus more revenue \$for dnr. Just say no to bait.



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- 17324 Three things, eliminate driving deer, unsportsmanlike and dangerous 2, in order to harvest an antlered deer the rack must be outside the ears. (I think this is the most important thing at all, this resource is being wasted)the largest and best deer could come from Wisconsin, finally the program, where you give tags to land owners due to crop damage is a huge scam, I have spoken to nearly a dozen of these land owners they just let there friends hunt keep phony records just to get the crop damage money. It's a farce. With regard to everything else, you do a great job, 40 years ago I bet we dint have half the amount of wildlife we have today or the resource or assistance
- 17325 For one, get rid of group hunting for deer. I see it every year one person shoots 4-5 deer a season and gives the meat away to other people. If you want venison then go and harvest your own deer. Also, limit the amount of tags each hunter can have. No bonus tags. I hunt private land I always see one hunter shooting 4-6 deer a year (legally because of group hunting) and that needs to stop. He is only hurting future deer herd since he shoots anything and everything regardless of the size of the animal.
- 17326 I think that last year was an ok year as far as deer population goes in the areas I hunt. I have had better years, but I was happy with my season. I oppose the holiday hunt because I don't want to see people in the hunting community field dressing does that have fawn fetuses in them. It is bad for public relations and I want to see more people joining the hunting community. I would like to see the herd stay nearly the same or a slight increase to help young hunters or entry level hunters have success.
- 17327 I think we need to harvest a few more deer in my part of Sheboygan county. there have been an awful lot of deer killed on the road here in the south central part of the county. with more hunters stand hunting and fewer drives the deer become less accessible. if we have a successful fawn crop we'll have a good many deer next fall. I think it would be wise to harvest them. harvesting them this fall would keep the population under control and still maintain it's productivity. thank you
- 17328 I would like to see atleast for a one season trial, all hunters are issued 1 buck 1 doe tag period. The hunter has the choice to use those 2 tags to harvest a deer with any weapon. If the hunter is unsuccessful with the bow then he has gun season to use those 2 tags. There is no reason any hunter needs to shoot more than 2 deer a year with the low population. Even by doing this trial for 1 year the following years herd will be larger giving all hunters better chances for harvest
- 17329 I don't feel we need to extend or make new hunting seasons. It is a dying sport in Wisconsin which can be seen just in permit purchases and deer harvested. By extending the season or making up new ones you are overlapping time frames for other sports or activities in Wisconsin that would get shoved out of the way or shut down because of hunting on private and public lands. If you want to reduce the deer population, hand out more tags for the same price you do now.
- 17330 We barely have a snowmobile season the way it is. We have a lot of private hunting land that our trails cover. These land owners would not allow us to ride our trails if they would be open in January. An extended hunting season to January 31, 2019 would interfere with that greatly. I do not agree with an extended bow season. Why not think about opening it earlier? What about hunting in May--August? Thank you for your time.
- 17331 I continue to be amazed at the apparent lack of ethics among many hunters for each other and their impact on the quality of the hunt experience for all while on public lands in this DMU. I hunted for many years on public land up north and never experienced this. Perhaps northern folks were brought up differently and urban folks in the south were never properly taught to respect the land, the game animals, or each other.
- 17332 I would like to see how many lic/tags sold vs the number of deer taken. I would like to see this in Archery vs cross bow. I am concerned that cross bow is much more effective weapon. I feel cross bow should have its own season and limited time compared to archery. Also since age is no longer a restriction for getting a license I do not think there is a need for "youth" hunts. Thank you



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- 17333 As an avid archery hunter, I would like to see the two buck tags a year change. Have one archery buck tag and one archery/gun tag (meaning your second tag can be used to harvest a buck any time during the season, but following Wisconsin's season limits.) I don't see the downside of having the second tag be gun optional...I personally don't want to be forced to use a gun if I don't have too.
- 17334 I have a hard time understanding why the deer bow season needs to be 100 plus days while the gun season is only 9 days. If the DNR continues to cater to the bowhunters I will quit deer hunting along with many others- good luck controlling the deer herd then. I am also an avid snowmobiler and active club member- again is it really necessary to have more hunting days?
- 17335 I am a deer hunter and a snowmobiler. I am NOT in favor of the holiday hunt. First of all, how long do we need to make these hunting seasons? As a snowmobiler, some landowners will not allow snowmobiling during hunting seasons. With snow at a minimum in Sheboygan county lately, losing a week of riding could really hurt. So, NO HOLIDAY HUNT IN SHEBOYGAN COUNTY
- 17336 The antlerless only hunts and holiday hunts are NOT needed.... and the bow season should stay the same. A hunter should get one doe tag with a bow license and one doe tag with gun license! There should be NO additional doe tags on top of that. The deer herd is not strong enough for someone to be able to kill more than that!
- 17337 The deer harvest numbers do not include poachers. With the new regulations removing back tags and registration in person, there has been a dramatic increase in poachers in my area. Much fewer deer are being seen in this area by the law abiding hunters. So much so that some have stopped hunting deer all together.
- 17338 I support the DNR adjusting the length of the crossbow season, for those that are not disabled or elderly, to better reflect harvest success rates of bucks similar to the gun season and the archery season. Please consider my vote for question #18 as being "IN FAVOR" of adjusting the crossbow season length.
- 17339 I oppose extending the bow season until Jan 31st and the Holiday Hunt as it effects the open and closure status of the local snowmobile trail system. If a hunt runs until 1/31 it will result in many trail systems to close permanently and thus severely impact snowmobiling in Sheboygan County.
- 17340 No holiday hunt. I am a snowmobiler and a hunter. If there is a holiday hunt, some landowners may not allow snowmobiling until hunting is over. The Greenbush club had this problem years ago and it cut off a main trail route by the Sheboygan marsh. Enough with all these hunting seasons.
- 17341 PLEASE DON'T CHANGE THE 'CROSSBOW SEASON.' If you give into the vertical bow folks, because they think there is too much of an advantage to crossbows, then change the bow season back to "recurves only," as the modern compound bow is just as accurate and deadly as a crossbow.
- 17342 Wisconsin dnr is giving away way to many deer tags, deer population gets slaughtered year in and year out and also public land is almost unsafe to hunt during firearm season with deer drives and almost no permission to hunt private land anymore it's getting sad.
- 17343 I have been living in this area and hunting it for 17yrs. The deer population is way down. Seeing a deer while sitting is rare now. I am at the point of not even wasting my money on buying hunting licenses anymore. I am a patrons license holder now.
- 17345 The past several winter's have been very low as far as snow. This has limited the availability to snowmobile. Extending the hunting season will not help. I am NOT opposed to hunting, but would not want to limit snowmobile opportunities either.
- 17344 Its time to back off on the metro zone slaughter. I have seen certain areas from north to south completely cleaned out. Also many of these animals are highly pressured due to extra tags and longer seasons. Too many consecutive years of Metro.



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- 17346 The deer season is too long, other people are unable to use public land when hunting season is on. The snowmobile season is short enough the way it is, if a hunting season was extended into January then the trails would not be able to open.
- 17347 Deer are over hunted in areas where there is public land. If there is a bunch of private land in 1 square mile it holds more deer which gives you a greater chance at getting a deer. How can you give public land a greater chance?
- 17348 Extending deer hunting season will have impact on safety of other winter sports such as cross country skiing, hiking, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. I feel that hunting season is already too long.
- 17349 I love to deer hunt. I also like doing other winter sports, cross country skiing and snowmobiling. The 9 day gun deer season is long enough. Let others enjoy the winter as well!!
- 17350 Too many hunters. Stop issuing county and public/private land specific tags. Allow more predator hunting up north to fix deer population that has forced more hunters south.
- 17351 please donot mess with the crossbow season i enjoy getting out have no luck for 3yrs not as easy as the wisconsin bowhunters association believe
- 17352 I would prefer not to allow the holiday hunt. It could interfere with the snowmobile season, and make for difficult choices for the landowners.
- 17353 Extending the holiday and a later season will impact and endanger people who hike, snowshoe, cross country ski, and snowmobile.
- 17354 No antlerless hunts should be done. Eliminate the 4 day hunt and do not consider a holiday hunt
- 17355 Keep the crossbow season along with the archery season. NO shorter season for crossbow.
- 17356 Please respect other recreational users during the process of extending hunting seasons.
- 17357 Would not want an extended hunt season to affect the already short snowmobile season
- 17358 Looks like you're on the right track. Healthy herd with good opportunity to harvest.
- 17359 I agree with the Holiday Hunt and hunting till Jan 31, just makes sense
- 17360 Just stop giving out so many doe tags and stop the big group hunts.
- 17361 Bring back the back tags,carcass tags and in person registration.
- 17362 End the metro zone in completely in Sheboygan co.
- 17363 THIS UNIT TO ME SEEMS TO BE WELL MANAGED.
- 17364 Expand urban unit to previous boundary.
- 17365 Return to hunter's choice program.
- 17366 No more antlerless hunts
- 17367 4 point minimum.
- 18072



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

St. Croix, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

40 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 32
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
I hunt in this unit: 34
General interest in this unit: 10

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 30
Bow: 25
Crossbow: 10
Muzzleloader: 8

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 5
Average: 22.74
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 15
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
Mostly Public Land: 1
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 5
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 4
Fewer: 17
Same: 14
More: 2
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	3	3	18	11	3	2



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	1	13	20	5	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	4	18	12	3	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	0	1	21	9	4	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	0	2	20	9	4	5

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	1	18	21	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	2	16	17	5

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	12	26	2
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	22	15	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	4	34	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.95
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.02
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.78
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.70
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.42
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.40
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.45
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.42
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.48
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.82
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.68



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for St. Croix, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17081 Thank you for allowing my input. I've been hunting deer during the firearms season since age 12, and mostly on public land in St. Croix County. There are two sections to my comments, First, to the direction/rules/traditions of deer hunting. Second, to my experiences afield. Part 1: I have concerns with the direction things are going with Wisconsin deer hunting. I realize there is little the DNR can do about many of the changes that occurred this season, but hope they can advocate to the elected officials who do. Removing age restrictions for licensed deer hunters was a horrible decision. I've fond memories of trekking into the woods with my father and grandfather to learn the appropriate way to deer hunt... without holding a weapon. A citizens wish to have their three-year old hunt with them does not supersede citizens rights to be safe on public land. The fact that this decision was made with little to no (I believe none) public input is a gross misuse of power. Again, that decision was made by legislators, not the DNR. The decision to eliminate tagging your deer does nothing but invite people to abuse the right to hunt deer. Those poor decisions, especially as people are caught, will do nothing to add to hunter's ethics in the public eye. Again, this is a legislative issue, but hoping the DNR will have input. I worry about the DNR losing tools to help them investigate on private property from tips of poaching. I'm not 100% if that was passed, but hope DNR officials can do their jobs. Part 2: The past three hunting seasons have been unique in my 28 years. Three years ago, (2015), I hunted seven of the nine days, for approximately 54 hours. I did not see an overabundance of people at any particular spot on public land, but I also only saw six deer. I did not harvest any. Two years ago, (2016), I only hunted three days. They were the most pleasant I can remember. I did not encounter more than one or two other hunters, and had three opportunities to take a deer. I missed a buck, but my partner got him as he doubled back. This year (2017), I hunted five days, for roughly twenty hours, and saw two deer while afield. There were more hunters, but not overcrowded. I only had a shooting opportunity at one, but did not fire. The deer numbers or deer movement seems to be in decline, as it was not uncommon to see three to a dozen deer most days on public land.

17082 I am confused about the recommendation to hold "antlerless only" deer hunts in the St. Croix County forest region? You recommend this as the deer herd has been drastically decreased with an over-abundant amount of antlerless deer permits issued over the past few years. Is it not presumed that many nub bucks, and impregnated does (carrying male deer) are killed while we are issuing antlerless permits and killing does in what I feel to be ridiculous numbers? This past Fall (2017), I purchased a resident gun deer license for both my Son and I. We did the same for archery. Between the 2 of us, we had something like 21 antlerless tags?? We hunt in the St. Croix Count Metro Unit on Private land. I believe the last doe we harvested was in 2014, yet we are seeing less and less deer every year. We are venison eaters, but we are also buck hunters. If you take the opportunity away for a hunter to harvest a buck - you will greatly diminish license sales, and lose hunters to other opportunities in other states. Is it not the objective of the Wi. DNR to keep the hunting experience in Wisconsin alive and thriving? At a time when the Wisconsin hunter demographic is literally dying, we need to keep the young hunters engaged in this great sport and Wisconsin tradition - and the opportunity to harvest a buck is at the top of a great hunting experience...



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17083 The predation, agriculture permits, poaching, and antlerless deer permits dating back to the great mistake of Earn a Buck have dramatically reduced the deer and especially trophy buck populations. My family and fellow hunting friends have watched the population decrease significantly since beginning hunting in this area. It was truly a trophy and deer mecca which I fear will never return. The coyote and bear populations take a significant number of fawns and the agriculture permits have had the biggest impact in recent years. Tying crop damage payments to antlerless permits for farmers is ridiculous and should be stopped. There is at least 200 permits issued to farmers in a 3 square mile area around where we hunt. If things would have been left alone back in the early 2000s this area would be one of the best Whitetail areas in the country but not the way it has been managed!
- 17084 My 2 cents, In order to make the Metro Sub-unit work I think we need to somehow open it up so folks can actually hunt it. If there is no public accessible lands to hunt, the public will not be able to harvest any antlerless deer. I live in the Metro subzone, I hunt it (I am lucky enough to have a small place to hunt). I am also lucky enough to have totaled my car on my way to my hunting location, when I hit a deer. If we could open up city / school district / foreclosed land / Subdivision green spaces, Etc that would go a long way to increasing the harvest. I get that there might be safety concerns, but maybe a certification course or something could be mandated prior to getting access to these types of land. Limit it to Bow/Crossbow only Just a couple of thoughts.
- 17085 With the lack of public land in our county, it creates a challenge to the harvest numbers. The inability for the general public to access private lands because the broken landscape by acreage, and the style of hunting on these private lands has a definite bearing on the harvest and the habits of the deer. I have studied the heard around my area and the nine days of kayos has left the movement habit to a nocturnal state well into February. Private land owners need to understand the importance of harvesting does on their property or the goal of this county will never be close to being met. Giving more tags is not the answer and maybe just promotes desperation in the minds of the general public to fill the tags that they spent their money on.
- 17086 WI DNR should manage deer populations based on data, not pure opinion and speculation of residents. Personal observations are far too dependent on weather, circumstance, personal bias. Use tested and verified population models, sex age kill data, vehicle accident data, crop damage data, disease monitoring, habitat change, fawn counts, mortality studies. Public opinion is far too unreliable to manage a resource as important as Wisconsin's deer herd, or any wildlife population. Restore science funding and capabilities to the DNR.
- 17087 I have heard that there is talk about making the cross bow season only one week long, if this happens you will loose revenue and hunters. Plus you will not be able to maintain deer quotes as suggested. Hunters like myself will not buy patron licenses and go back to sportsman licenses. The deer population is not being affected by the cross bow hunters you still have to have the deer within 40 yards for all good hunters and the same is true for bow hunters. Thank you
- 17088 We need to do away with the separation of public and private, many people I talk to and myself included believe it is just a money making scheme. I hunt an equal amount of both so I have to acquire tags for both. I also think you should get a buck and a doe tag with your archery and your gun license, if you want to kill more deer than that you buy whatever's leftover.
- 17089 1. Leaving deer stands in public woods is inconsiderate of other hunters and should not be allowed. Hunters should leave their hunting area on public land looking just like they found it. 2. Baiting deer, i.e. bait piles and feeders specifically for deer, should not be allowed anywhere in the state as it always adds a vehicle for disease transfer in the herd.
- 17090 I think the use of crossbows for archery hunts should be limited to a shorter time slot like gun hunting. I think the use of a crossbow is much more effective than a long bow in harvesting a deer. Limiting it to a month or less and having a season of it's own would be beneficial to the deer population
- 17091 I don't believe enough concern is put to all the predators like coyotes, Fishers and bears have on our deer and turkey populations. I wouldn't mine a 8 pointer only rule in place to grow some nicer deer.



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17092 Extending the archery/crossbow season would help entice more youth into this sport. The use of crossbows has especially helped in this area.

17093 I feel deer should be tagged when shot. I feel that some deer are not being registered.

17094 prohibit all deer baiting statewide

18068



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Taylor, Northern Forest

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122 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 69
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 19
I hunt in this unit: 109
General interest in this unit: 20

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 103
Bow: 75
Crossbow: 34
Muzzleloader: 53

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 24.32
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 43
Mostly Private Land: 16
Public and Private Land About Equally: 24
Mostly Public Land: 11
Exclusively Public Land: 15
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 20
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 20
Somewhat crowded: 7
Very crowded: 16
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 12
Fewer: 22
Same: 40
More: 33
Many More: 13
Unsure: 2

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	6	12	48	42	13	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	11	48	35	21	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	11	43	35	23	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	62	49	11

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.85
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.68
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.26
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.43
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.21
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.11
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.39
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.43
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.41
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.40
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.56



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Taylor, Northern Forest

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17368 I think the herd is holding its own all things considered. I think we should try the 4 pts on one side rule. Most people shoot the first set of antlers they see. With the wolf population bigger than the DNR seems to know and the very overpopulated coyotes the deer are having trouble making it to maturity. I've hunted public land the last three years by the modoux flowage due to the low numbers on our private land. This past year was the first year I saw a deer and got a 3 yr old ten pts. There's very little hunting pressure last few years but the herd still struggling to grow. I blame it on predators and my neighbors. I find many carcasses around our land just north of highway m. I don't know the answers but giving kids all these tags is pointless. I have 3 youth children one which has hunted 3 years now. We've found her a deer every year so far. Her cousins dad has 5 kids and takes all them out every season and let's them kill everything. They moved by me few years ago. That's where a lot of the local deer have gone. My daughter is fine with 1 deer a year. Why don't they give everyone a doe and a buck tag. That's only 2 deer per person and let them kill them in whatever season they choose. I've seen more and more does not breed obviously not enough mature but 's around to breed them. We can bring all the does back we want. If everyone keeps killing every year old buck the herd will not get better. I guess that's my thoughts. Good luck trying to balance dumb asses and the deer herd!!!!!! Thanks for reading.

17369 The deer herd would benefit greatly if there were an antler restriction. The male/female ratio of our herd is also greatly unbalanced, more doe tags will not solve this issue. A young male antlerless deer is not a doe, a responsible hunter knows the difference and those who don't would learn if they were forced to put a buck tag on these young male deer. Antler restrictions and proper doe management have proven to be greatly beneficial where ever tried, in three short years the hunting community would be reaping the benefits. There also needs to be changes to some of the predator management, the bobcat population is a prime example, their population has vastly increased in the past 10-15 years yet there is no change in their management. The DNR has for a long time done a fine job of encouraging hunter safety and responsibility. They have demonstrated a willingness to modernize our licensing and registration system. But it is time for them demonstrate a willingness to modernize responsible management practices. The northwoods of Wisconsin have been a destination for hunters for generations, but this is no longer the case due to the poor wildlife management of our DNR and its effects have been detrimental to property values, businesses, and in general the community as a whole.

17370 I believe the Wisconsin archery season is too long. October 1 would be a good starting point and end with muzzleloader season. The deer are being hunted almost 4 months out of the year. Crossbow although good for certain people are being used inappropriately during the late season with a scope and snow on the ground they are catastrophic to the mature buck population. With the use of heated blinds I know people are taking advantage of this option instead of using a compound bow. I believe it's good to encourage kids to get out and hunt but the use of a crossbow I feel isn't right. I didn't get to use one and I have no intention on using one until I'm no longer able to draw a compound bow back. People of a certain age or with a doctors note, vets I have no problem with them using a crossbow but a 18 year old kid who's perfectly able shouldn't be using one. Another factor is people think because they're using a crossbow they can shoot longer distances resulting in more wounded deer. I know that taking crossbows away from certain people isn't a reality for now but I feel shortening the bow season or the crossbow season could make a big difference. Thank you for your time.



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- 17371 I am glad to see the recommendation of 600 public land tags for 2018. I own 80 acres of Managed Forest Crop and this will be the first year we can harvest a doe. I hunt with family and friends from a deer camp and hopefully this will allow us to harvest a few more deer. I agree with the proposed goal of increasing the deer herd in Taylor county. I reviewed the multiple statistics, graphs and harvest reports along with public comments from 2017. Taylor county is very diverse with some areas having low deer densities and other areas with lots higher deer counts and likely more farming land. People raise concerns about baiting, I have put out bait but do not see where it has helped my chances of bagging a deer. Most of the deer were nocturnal anyway and this was confirmed on trail cameras. My concerns are predators, poaching and whether the current registration procedures give accurate kill data! Are people actually registering all deer harvested?
- 17372 It's April 3rd and we still have 2 ft of snow in the woods. 20 to 30 percent of the herd could die before the snow melts and the DNR is making antlerless quota's. This is a brown and down area where the deer don't stand a chance maybe they should take that in consideration along with the xbows that are slatering the deer in late season. I used to love bow hunting, now I could care less if I gun hunt and only bowhunt the first week of November. I purchased new land in 2016 and didn't even hunt it last year, due to the over harvest by mid October. These are my opinions, but I used to live deer 24/7 365 and that passion is lost in Taylor cty for me and most people in my family. Making hunting easier isn't going to keep real hunters buy license in the future. Almost all of my hardcore bowhunting friends and family don't hunt here anymore let alone this state. But good luck u can't make it any worse.
- 17373 I hunt farm ground along the southern edge of Taylor County. There have been a very large number of deer in this area for many years and the doe population is far too high. It had previously been managed as unit 27 which included the farmland area of Clark County. This was a much smarter management plan as the area south of Highway 64 has a high concentration of farmland and needs to be managed differently than the forested northern part of the county. I suggest that you look closely at the severe difference in use and make management decisions in the southern part more applicable to the high deer density. I routinely saw 15-25 does and fawns every day while bowhunting last fall. They were severely negatively impacting the farm fields and I had no antlerless tag. Very unfortunate the way the management units are set up now, as they do not take into effect the land use of the areas.
- 17374 Over the last 21 years of deer hunting in WI, I have watched a number of changes, most in the last 5 years. Growing up with this tradition being the most looked forward to week of my year, I look forward to carrying that tradition on to my three son's as they get older. TRADITION, that's the important word that is being swept under the rug in this state. I know more people not buying a tag anymore because they don't see any deer, the rules are too complicated, they don't know how to register a deer anymore, and the list goes on. The state wants more hunters, go back to the rules that proved there were more hunters, go back to registering at the local bar or gas station, that was the best part of opening day. The proof is in the past. I don't typically fill this stuff out, but I really means a lot to me and my family to keep such a great tradition going
- 17375 How many more years do you need to increase the herd size? Reduce the antlerless permit levels is really the only way. The only hunters that have sacrificed and has paid the price in trying to increase the herd is the public land hunters (up to this year 0 permits) and local tourism owners (because the public hunters are leaving with their money). Local land owners are still getting their tags. Please: less tags and divide them up more fairly would help. If the concept is true that there are no deer on public land then what's the issue with giving them hunters tags? At least they will feel like they were treated fairly as the local land owners. Looks like all the counties around Taylor have met their goals. This our chance.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17376 I believe that a number of years with point restrictions on bucks would greatly improve the age and the health of the deer herd. The northern herd needs some time to establish some genetics and age to be able to provide outstanding deer hunting and to improve the quality of the herd. Bucks typically do not get the chance to grow more than 2.5 - 3.5 years old to realize their true potential. In my opinion if you want to increase revenue from hunting and improve the hunting experience we need to focus on improving the quality and the age of our deer herd. This in turn would also provide stellar hunting for generations to come. Thank you for taking the time to read my recommendation.
- 17377 Private land quota seems good. Population on private seems good/better. Public land still needs work. It's getting better but far from what it was. Could there be tags? YES. 600 tags? NO With the way the winter is dragging out I hope you lean to the conservative side and lower the public land tags to 200-300. To many unknowns with the winter and all the youth/veteran tags that get filled. Heck that's over a hundred in itself that hardly get acknowledged. We're heading in the right direction on public, just don't want it to go backwards just to make the hunter happy. Still seeing more bucks than does on the public in northern Taylor. (On game camera and while hunting)
- 17378 My opinion on in this comment isn't so much on harvest rates but more towards tag prices. I've hunted in many different states and none of which were non resident tags as cheap as Wisconsin. \$20 for a non resident doe tag!! Unreal residents are charged \$12. I've paid anywhere from \$80-\$128 for a doe tag in other states. Turkey tags are more expensive for a resident to buy than a non resident doe tag and look at the difference in meat on the animals. Raising the price for non residents should be looked into. It can generate more money for the DNR. I was appalled to see that non residents can buy for tags for \$20. I think that's a slap to the face of locals who have to pay \$12
- 17379 I am an avid outdoorsman who lives in Taylor county. our CDAC in Taylor county has done a very good job in the past three years and hopefully they will continue to do so!! Our deer numbers are looking better on our private land but the public ground could use another few years of a zero quota. The numbers just aren't there in our county and especially national forest. I hope to see a zero quota on public land for at least this year considering an already small public herd and a cold and snowy spring that we are having. The youth, veterans, disabled, and a thriving predator population are killing enough deer on public land already. Thanks for the good work!!!
- 17380 A slight increase in the antlerless kill would be acceptable due to the amount of adult does observed last fall. The lopsided permit situation "private/public" is not helping the deer hunting in this area. Understanding that the same deer frequent both public and private land in many instances this simply "penalizes" the non land owning hunter. A slow increase in tags is the way to go as the past has proven the reactionary increases have been a poor choice at best. A few more tags to the public land and a few less to the private land with a small increase to overall numbers should keep the herd growing and offer more opportunity to ALL hunters.
- 17381 Thank you Taylor Co. CDACs for bringing back our deer populations especially on public land. You held your ground with zero tags for a few years and did what was best for the herd. I think the private tags are pretty close to what they should be this year. The public tags might be a bit high as our winter is dragging out, record predators, nasty cold this winter, etc... The public land herd should be treated differently than private land so please consider maybe dropping the number of public tags a bit. I agree there should be some public tags but please don't over issue tags as it took so long to build this herd back up. Keep up the good work.
- 17382 I would like to see three things happen in Taylor County. I will keep this short and simple so that this is read. 1. Put a minimum antler-point restriction on whitetail buck tags. 2. Please consider putting limitations on the early October youth Rifle hunt. Too many immature deer are being harvested, now even more tags will be given to families for that hunt with the new change in age of hunter. Moreover, hunting isn't supposed to be that easy! Are we teaching our youth the right lesson about hunting? 3. Seeing lots of deer get more people out hunting. Consider keeping antlerless permits low. Thank you for your time.



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- 17383 The wolf population in northern Wisconsin is growing at a rapid rate and is a big problem of this whole deer management situation. Do something about the wolf population before you increase the deer population. Increasing it is senseless because the wolves kill them off. Another thing to increase deer population in northern Wisconsin is to increase DNR activity during season. The amount of poaching going on during and out of season is ridiculous and causing a big population drop in the deer herd. Decrease wolf population and increase DNR activity, two things that will increase population!
- 17384 I hunt with a cross-bow, rifle, and muzzleloader, I believe we are harvesting too many young bucks and there is too much infighting between bow hunters, rifle hunters and cross-bow hunters. I would like to see a 1 buck tag per hunter, per year. If rifle and bow tags are purchased, the second tag would be an antlerless tag, which would be used in one or the other seasons, opposite the buck tag. We wouldn't need to change laws every year to accommodate special groups and would provide better buck hunting for the residents of Wisconsin. I hope you read this. Thank you very much.
- 17385 Would like to see tag quota increased for private land, especially in the Southern portion of this unit, as it is nearly impossible to successfully grow back yard plants or a garden without totally fencing the area. The deer herd seems to have increased to where deer repellent options used in the past, and I have used many of them, no longer work today nor does a 5 1/2 foot fence. They are a hungry bunch of animals. I have had good success with an 8' fence but that get very expensive and works for a garden but how do you fence off the plants, trees and bushes around your home?
- 17386 I am all harvesting some antlerless deer of public land but with the severe with dragging out we have to make sure we take this into consideration was our coyote hunting this weekend found a starving doe fawn that could hardly walk in the deep snow no way she is gonna make it hunting public land was a blast last year because we were actually seeing deer again I don't want it to go back to the way it was a few years ago it's fun to see deer when hunting just asking for everyone to look at the winter as a serious issue please private land definitely needs doe shot though
- 17387 I think the 5000 private land antler less permits is too many. The proposed harvest is increased by 250 antler less deer but the number of permits goes up by 650. That translates to a 38% success rate which is probably realistic however more people are enrolling their land in DMAP. These people will be buying DMAP antler less tags instead of the regular antler less tags leading to a higher private land antler less harvest. I think DMAP antler less tags should be taken into account in the overall number of private land antler less deer tags.
- 17388 I'm very concerned with the age limit for hunters. With the large number of Amish and Mennonites in the area and family sizes the number of tag's are very concerning. I have witnessed the shooting of any deer that moves. Deer hanging in the shed with hide on in April. And later threw on a Rock pile. I also find it hard to believe that the parents won't fill the tag's. The beliefs are the deer are God's Creatures and not the DNR responsibility.
- 17389 Need to bring back the deer and get kids involved. When there no deer to shoot or even see then its hard to keep kids interest. Stop killing doe's and create a big buck management plan, 4pt on one side. This makes it safer, you have to know what your shooting at and not just blasting. The new Deer registration is not working, people don't register their deer anymore. Bring back the deer numbers and start killing the wolves!!
- 17390 Hard to set the quota numbers before winter is over. With the addition of late snow and cold weather many deer will continue to die off yet. Now is the time of the year when they really start to succumb to a long hard winter with a late thaw and slow green up. Try to hold off on increasing the antler less tag numbers until we know how the herd is doing this spring. Probably wont happen but would make sense.
- 17391 Keep zero to a very small amount of antlerless deer tags available for public land. Consider making the public land tags available to county residents or landowners in the county. Quite a bit of pressure in the Chequamegon National Forest, with little deer sign. Sign has been improving year over year, but still not a large enough population (with the low amount of timber harvest) in the forest.



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- 17393 Just want to add that there needs to be a/more of a predator season put forth. More and more, I hear locals reporting sightings of wolves and the large abundance of coyotes as well. I've personally seen paw prints of the wovles and personal sightings as well. I've also encountered 2 wolf kill sites while hiking on public land near the private land I hunt. Every yr it's all been on the increase.
- 17392 I would like to change to the projection to maintain deer heard not increase, as i believe we will be on a verge of a rapidly increasing deer heard, i believe with too many deer in a smaller area will increase the risk of cwd. i do not hunt public land but i do believe that 600 tags is too many i would like to see it reduced to 350 tags but i do believe there should be some doe tags for public
- 17394 Recommendations are pretty good. Last year was encouraging, especially on my public land hunts. It was good to see an occasional deer again. My initial thought was public quota and tags were just a tad high, but still reasonable. Now, in light of the long winter, I would push a little more toward just shaving those numbers to a quota of 200 with 500 tags.
- 17395 1. Please require registration of deer at authorized check in sites since cell phone and internet services are not available for many hunters. 2. Please require the physical tagging of all carcasses. 3. Please provide hunter identification back tags. 4. Please require hunters be at least ten years old and pass hunters safety classes.
- 17396 The private land I hunt on borders the national forest. At nights sitting with the cross bow I would see up to a dozen deer within a three to four hour period. The land I own was considered virgin timber. It was logged last year. I did see lessor amounts compared to previous years. Trail camera's still indicated the same amount.
- 17397 In my perspective there are a lot less deer than there was 10-15 years ago. I used to see 5-10 a night and now maybe 1. Others I have talked to have similar perspective. The statistics don't show this. Makes a lot of people wonder about accuracy of results. Thus, there should be fewer tags available to rejuvenate the herd.
- 17398 My friends and I hunt forestry land a lot, and pay special attention to the number of deer we find in various areas. They were very scarce for quite a few years, and are just starting to recover, and grow in numbers. 600 antlerless would be on the high side of my recomendations for public land at this time. Thank You!
- 17399 I couldn't agree more with the Taylor County 2018 CDAC harvest recommendations! Very well done guys! As a lifetime resident of Taylor County, and an individual who has spent 20 years now in the field, exercising all forms of hunting opportunities, I believe we are right where we should be as far as deer numbers go.
- 17400 There were rumors that a shortened crossbow season was being considered. I am very much opposed to that. It seems to me to be working very well the way it is. It is encouraging more people to try hunting during a more pleasant time of the year and does not have any adverse affect on traditional archery hunting.
- 17401 This winter has been a long and fairly tuff one on our local herd. Very little logging in our area has left them with very little browse. My hats off to the locals who spent there own money to feed hay and corn. I do believe this will effect the outcome of the fawns being born this spring. Thank You !
- 17402 I generally always agree with the Taylor County CDAC, and believe they are doing a great job as they have a good handle on the herd. I would limit public land tags further however. Of course, the wolf population is out of control and is contributing to the somewhat slow recovery on public land.
- 17403 The Taylor County CDAC has an overwhelming representation of the Taylor County Sportsman Club. Five of the eight non-DNR positions are held by Taylor County Sportsmen Club members. I would like to see a diversification of these positions. Please consider this in the next application process.
- 17404 The population of the Chequamegon Forest part of Taylor County has not recovered from the slaughter of several years ago. Combine that with the lack of forest management and very little cover or food and the result is a beautiful vast unbalanced forest devoid of all animals.



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- 17405 there are far too many deer by thorp. It was like infested with deer. there should be a separate area for the struggling part of the county because limiting deer tags because an issue in a different part of the county is causing another issue in this area with too many deer.
- 17406 We need to get back to in person registration and back tags. This foolishness has allowed trespassers and violators to pull all sorts of shenanigans and has made it impossible for the Dnr to get real, accurate kill numbers. What the hell are you guys thinking?
- 17407 from the trail camera's I have out and the lack of deer seen while driving, and hunting and the number of predators on the rise . I believe the deer population is at an all time low. even closing the deer hunting season a few years could be a helpful option.
- 17408 There needs to be increased opportunity to harvest deer in Taylor County. Allow more tags and get more hunters in the woods. If hunters choose not to buy them, that's their choice. Allow the opportunity for others to be out there hunting.
- 17409 I never shot a deer last year in both bow and gun seasons. I passed up a couple fork bucks as they were young but even the deer population I see in the winter normally feeding in my fields are way down from previous years
- 17410 The deer population is not as large as the DNR projections. There are still to many predators Wolves and Coyotes. I did not see many deer while out hunting during bow season and gun deer season.
- 17411 Due to the inability to forecast weather it would seem that if you are going to raise the number of antlerless permits do so in a more responsible manner smaller increases would seem more prudent.
- 17412 The amount of deer feces around our cabin has never been so great as this winter.. the carpet of feces is incredible. This has never happened in the last 45 years.
- 17413 We need to bring back "back tags" and have registration stations. Without these the amount and potential amount of poaching has gone up and will continue to go up.
- 17414 The number of tags should decrease. You've determined that the population needs to increase, yet your recommendation is to increase the number of tags available.
- 17415 Might be a slight exaggeration but I think you would be hard pressed to find 600 antlerless deer on public land. Or should I say, Federal Forest land.
- 17416 Hunting is always more fun when you see more deer. No one needs to shoot multiple deer each year. I would support a bait ban as well.
- 17417 For trying to increase the herd them are pretty high permit levels. At least they are acknowledging deer go on forest land.
- 17418 Need an open season on WOLVES. Way too many. It also wouldnt hurt to have more bear tags.
- 17419 i think it is past the time to ban all deer baiting in this county and across the state.
- 17420 Long hard winter, many fawns have been and will be lost this winter in Taylor county
- 17421 Seem to be plenty of deer along the road on the west side of Miller Dam
- 17422 I think the number of tags set for the public land is a little high.
- 17423 Thanks for your work. I like all of the numbers proposed for 2018.
- 17424 Still not seeing the deer of years ago.
- 17425 your's is a tough job Good Luck
- 17426 Possibly limit crossbow hunting
- 17427 To MANY WOLVES!!!



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18073



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Trempealeau, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

96 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 55
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 14
I hunt in this unit: 85
General interest in this unit: 17

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 79
Bow: 48
Crossbow: 30
Muzzleloader: 33

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 22.61
Maximum: 61

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 62
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 3
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 5
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 7
Fewer: 16
Same: 36
More: 25
Many More: 12
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	12	21	36	16	9	2



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	15	14	31	19	17	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	9	17	31	14	13	12

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	38	45	12	1

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:

Not applicable in this DMU

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	27	59	10
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	39	46	9
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	12	80	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

Average Rating

Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.35
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.95
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.49
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.88
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.06
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	2.98
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.88
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.75
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.43
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.67
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.55



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Comments for Trempealeau, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 17428 Fully understanding that Trempealeau county is vastly different from the south to the north, as an agricultural producer it is becoming increasingly frustrating to sit by and watch the damage to the crops and woodlands due to the explosion of the deer population in northern Trempealeau County. If one does the math your goal of "maintain" does not compute in this part of the county! If the harvest goals are not reached as indicated in your reports, the population will continue to grow, as it has. This is evident by the increasing crop damage and the recreational sightings at dusk this past month. Us highway 53 is becoming a tourist destinations as it is common to see vehicles stopped along the road to count the deer feeding in the bean and corn fields! Some "micro territory" approach should be considered before the density levels reach the point where disease becomes a bigger risk or stronger support of a natural predator (ie more wolves) becomes the only alternative.
- 17429 AG tags are way to prevalent and to easy to acquire. I find dead antlered deer laying dead in my woods with alarming frequency. These are Bucks in the 8-10 point range that are easily distinguished from a Doe. Farmers are letting hunters into adjoining fields with an "if it's brown... it's down" directive. My woodland is regularly inspected by State personnel to determine the health of the trees and corresponding undergrowth and every report I get back states it is prime timber with abundant new growth and no disease, so over-browsing is a non-issue. The animals harvested on my land have NEVER been found to have CWD or any other malady that could impact the long term health of the population. Duration of the existing seasons for all venues, (bow, gun, or muzzleloader ect.) are fine in my view for maintaining the current herd numbers.
- 17430 My personal opinion is the deer population for south-central Trempealeau County is just about right. I understand the metrics behind the higher antler-less targets for 2018 presented in the prior sections of this survey, but don't think it is realistic to expect an increase in the purchase of antler-less tags from 1,000 to 2,800. More flexibility around the number of tags given with each license might help to increase the antler-less harvest, but the increase is likely to be modest. As always, hunters and landowners can and should have the ability to manage the deer herd in their area as necessary. After all it is we who will face the burden of crop damage, over-browsing of plants or on the other extreme too few deer to present adequate harvest opportunities in the coming years.
- 17431 Wondering if there is a fair way to restrict crossbow use. For example...(Minimum age requirement of 56-60 yrs., proof of a disability, limit to 1 deer tag with crossbow, and or if you hunt with both crossbow and compound/recurve you have to purchase another license full price and only get 1 tag of opposite sex from kill with crossbow for a total of two deer., If you purchase regular archer tag (non crossbow) keep regulations the same.) These are just a few suggestions to take into consideration. I feel there is a great advantage for crossbows over compound vs.traditional bows, especially when there are crossbows on the market which advertise 3" groups at 100 yards. Many nieghbors and friends mentioned switching to crossbows because it's "easier" to fill tags. Thank you,
- 17432 Having lived and hunted in Trempealeau County my entire life I can say that we have plenty of deer. We may not be at the levels we had back in the late 90's or early 2000's, but that is a good thing in my opinion. Having too many deer can lead to disease and it compromises the animals ability to survive a tough winter because the habitat is destroyed. I've personally witnessed deer that starved to death during a few of the tough winters we've had in the past 20 years. It is not a pretty sight, and I do not want to see it happen again. For this reason I believe we need to be aggressive in maintaining the herd at its current size and not allowing it to balloon to levels of the past. I'm not sure the current recommendations are aggressive enough to meet the current goal.



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- 17433 The number of bonus harvest tags proposed by the Trempealeau County CDAC will not provide an antlerless harvest of 4500 deer. Only 3339 antlerless deer were harvested in 2017 which allows the herd to continue to grow. Using 2016 and 2017 antlerless success numbers and the proposed antlerless bonus tags of 3000 the project antlerless kill for 2018 would be approximately 3900 far below the 4500 needed to maintain the population. If 5000 bonus permit were issued the projected antlerless harvest could be raised to approximately 4600 antlerless. I would encourage the number of bonus tags issued for Trempealeau County be raised to 5000 to achieve the recommendation of maintaining the deer herd at current population levels.
- 17434 current license format is too restrictive on where I can hunt (i.e. private/public and forest/farmland) as I like to all these areas in a season. I hear stories (3) of people not buying a license b/c no back tag is required. I support having a minimum age to hunt(i.e. 12 yr. old or more). CWD may end my hunting unless I can get the deer tested easily. Ban baiting. I have mentored several kids who are in foster care in how to bow hunt with very good results (behavior improvements etc.)...that is until assigned county worker thought it too dangerous. I wonder if the state (DNR, Foster Care, County Agencies, etc.) could work together for the benefit of all. thanks.
- 17435 Please do NOT change the crossbow season to be any different from the vertical bow season. I personally know several people that have started bow hunting because of the use of crossbows and have thoroughly enjoyed it. They all still gun hunt, but harvesting a deer during archery season makes the gun season quieter and more enjoyable as well. I fear cutting back the crossbow season could drive away new interest in archery. The higher success rate should be something to be celebrated, especially when the main goal of the deer harvest is to maintain the population. Again, please do NOT limit the crossbow season!!!
- 17436 There seems to be more and more hunting pressure during archery season. While I think the number of deer on our property is holding about steady (albeit surprisingly low for a county that has a reputation for high deer numbers), the number of deer seen seems to be going down as if the deer are more nocturnal and they are more prone to stick to heavy security cover. I assume it's due to higher pressure as a result of bow hunters spending more time afield as their standard go up in terms of what they'll shoot. I also assume the higher pressure has to do with crossbow inclusion.
- 17437 Just look at what Buffalo County did for the past 3 seasons. They were trying to decrease their herd. They were not successful in doing it, but they did managed to keep their deer numbers from going up. If Trempealeau county wants to "maintain" its herd at its current size, then why not copy what Buffalo county did the past 3 years? Buffalo and Trempealeau counties are similar in land type, as well as amounts of public and private land. If they can maintain their herd with what they did, I can't see why it won't work here.
- 17438 I feel each person who buys a license should get 1tag to use for a buck or a doe and no extra tag for anyone, the one tag would be good for what ever you hunt with gun or bow, muzzle loader or cross bow. Time zones should be drawn like they do for turkey season but for 9 day seasons. Anyone could have a chance to hunt during the rut that way. and familys that want to hunt together during the normal 9 day seasoned could. Thanks for this opportunity
- 17439 There has gotten to such a big buck mentality that the ways of old are long gone. The doe population continues to grow, feeding on farmers crops. I don't support an antlerless only format, but certainly not against it. Problems is, some hunters won't hunt at all. Bring back earn a buck, but help fund donation drop offs so excess meat can go to where needed. So many processors quit doing it because they made no money for it.
- 17440 Deer bow hunting season is way to long Starts to early - interfere with the other hunting bear exct I do not like all the extra and early hunts for the young or new hunters Deer hunting season is way to long it lasts to long!! Need to find another way to educate and encourage new hunters to hunt not just to go kill deer when no other hunters are allowed to be hunting Thanks for listening



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- 17441 Antlerless quota level seems high considering we are giving 3x the antlerless tags as last year. 2000 seems like a better number. I'm glad to see that only one free antlerless tag is provided and not two per license. I wish there was a way to manage the antlerless tags on public land better, since anyone can choose to make the free tag public which essentially leaves the public unmanaged.
- 17442 I think that deer herds would be healthier at a lower number with better quality habitat. With the lack of timber stand improvement in the area, I feel that deer are in a higher level of stress in the winter time. People want to see numerous deer when there out so they can feel good about their hunting skills but it's not benefiting the health of the deer herd.
- 17443 Hopefully something is done about the crossbow usage, I believe what ever you were trying to achieve, did not happen. I do know that the negative impacts, such as hurting the small businesses that rely on vertical bow shooters were severely hurt. I for one am a business owner that relied on Vertical bow shooters and had to close my doors.
- 17444 in 2017 i had two vehicle hits with deer causing over \$13000 damage. Then there is crop damage. If the DNR continues to maintain such a large herd farmers should be reimbursed for their grazing. After all they collect all the money. Our county is mostly agricultural land, not a northern woodland designed for deer tourism.
- 17445 While I oppose a complete antlerless only season, I would be positively inclined toward earn-a-buck in years when the deer population was determined to be too high. I think an occasional earn-a-buck season has the benefit of encouraging hunters to examine our own priorities and preferences when it comes to harvest.
- 17446 after the earn a buck B.S. we barely have a deer heard left. the dnr needs to stop killing does for a few years to build herd back up. dont ever have a earn a buck season again. and quit giving out extra doe tags. the way you changed the registration is not good either your just making it easier for poachers.
- 17447 After attending a few of the meetings I have learned that One board member is main worry is what his neighbors are shooting and one is worried about killing more deer to keep his locker plant full. Once everyone learns that keeping their own land managed is key and stop worrying about neighbors.
- 17448 I am happy that you are going to be issuing more bonus tags cause they usually sell out fast. A few years ago they were all gone in just a few days. Last year I actually got one, would have liked anopther but 12 dollars for each tag adds up fast. Thanks for the opportunity to give an opionion.
- 17449 Didn't see many last season , only 3. You need to investigate these landowners that are in the managed forest law and are leasing it out for money under the table. If they are in a program it should be open for public hunting period. They also claim Ag damage on top of it.
- 17450 TO MANY DEER. NEED MORE OF THE FREE TAGS. MY KIDS AND ME WOOD LIKE TO SHOOT MORE DEER BUT I CANT PAY FOR THE EXTRA TAGS. COST TO MUCH MONEY! WE LIKED IT MUCH BEETER WHEN WE GET 2 DOE TAGS WITH EACH LISENSE. COULD KEEP THE FREEZER FULL EASIER!!
- 17451 I've noticed an increase of deer predators in the area I hunt. (i.e. bears, big cats) Perhaps looking into those populations to determine if hunting those animals would help increase the deer populations.
- 17452 More antlerless tags for public land are needed. This is critical to maintaining the population at healthy levels. Also it's inportant that we keep the crossbow regs the same as they were in 2017.
- 17453 I just wanted to let you know. I own a 50 acre farm in Trempealeau county and it is common to see 20 to 30 deer in my yard daily. My wife and I can go for a short ride and see over 100 deer.
- 17454 Because of the proximity of public land, it is vital that this is monitored. I believe that individuals are not using public land tags when they harvest antlerless deer on these properties.
- 17455 I saw one deer in my hunting time. One. On 15 acres of private forest. That seems really low. Maybe it was just the patterns this year, but I would have expected to see many more.



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- 17456 alot of folks wont pay 12 bucks to kill an extra doe. if you really want to maintain the heard at its currents size your going to have to give out more free tags.
- 17457 I hunt in northern Trempealeau we have a lot less deer than southern Trempealeau County. Standing corn made it really hard to even see a deer last year.
- 17458 I believe that the crossbow season should be left as is. It has proven to be a deadly and humane weapon which is what you want when hunting deer.
- 17459 We have 23 antlerless deer in our 10 acre field every evening. I wish buck hunting was more limited and doe were encouraged more.
- 17460 I do support the reporting of private/public land deer harvests, but I do not support specific private or public tags.
- 17461 Trempele county deer numbers have gone way up in the last few years. Need to knock them back down a notch or two.
- 17462 I am against having a separate season for crossbow. I feel the season should be the same as with bow
- 17463 I believe there is plenty of deer. CWD is threat to deer and is a major concern of mine.
- 18074



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Vernon, Southern Farmland

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81 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 30
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 23
I hunt in this unit: 77
General interest in this unit: 14

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 72
Bow: 50
Crossbow: 24
Muzzleloader: 34

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 24.75
Maximum: 54

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 51
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 13
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
Somewhat crowded: 1
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 9
Fewer: 32
Same: 27
More: 9
Many More: 3
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	10	11	35	21	3	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	8	31	30	8	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	5	36	25	8	6
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	2	20	57	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	31	41	9
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	36	39	5
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	71	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.16
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.34
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.81
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.14
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.04
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.48
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.51
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.14
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.67
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.24



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Vernon, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

- 17464 I strongly disagree with the decision to include crossbows with the regular archery season, as well as the removal of age restrictions required to hunt deer. Maybe I am an abnormal example but our neighboring farmer has 5 children, the oldest being 9 and ranging down from there, this past season I was in a constant struggle because of their father deciding to let them all into the woods on their own. I am all for educating the youth in Woodmanship practices but those laws seem to send things in the other direction. The children were all equipped with crossbows and AR15's with adjustable stocks since the short length of pull fits them better. They shot at everything that moved all season long no matter the range, opening day of rifle season I counted over 20 rounds from the same gun in less than 30 seconds, and I have never had even close to the amount of deer found dead this winter with bolts in them or apparent gunshot wounds. I think that the State of Wisconsin wants nothing more than to kill as many deer as possible. I think it's wrong and I wish you would consider what it feels like to be surrounded by literal children in the woods, it's scary and disappointing. Thanks for your time.
- 17465 The crossbow season needs to be either eliminated or restructured. Crossbows are now capable of shooting over 100 yards. In addition the skill required to be able to fire at an animal is significantly less than someone using a traditional compound bow. I have also seen that the success rate for crossbow hunters is much higher than compound bows. I would strongly recommend eliminating crossbows completely, with the exception of medical or age (65 or older). If not completely eliminated, the season structure needs to change significantly. It is ridiculous that the crossbow and compound bow seasons are the same duration. A more fair system would be to have a 9-day early crossbow season (first week of October), allow crossbows to be used during the 9-day gun season, and then allow them to be used in December. With this proposal, the compound bow season would be unchanged and would hopefully even the odds for crossbows versus compound bows.
- 17466 This deer herd just keeps exploding. The amount of forest damage and crop damage is not sustainable. 45 years ago seeing a deer was a big deal, now if you don't see one or two dozen you go and get your glasses. We are setting ourselves up for a serious disease problem that will decimate the herd and other species will be affected negatively. The cattle industry and our state's economy could be adversely affected i.e. think Michigan. The Wisconsin DNR needs to get the herd under control before us old guys get to old to hunt. Remember this is hunting not shooting fish in a barrel. My brother and I have hunted together for over 50 years and we can make little one man pushes and see at least a dozen deer a piece. Good thing I guess, we only need to hunt for a couple of hours to harvest a couple of nice 10 pointers or big mature does. To old to hunt all day and take care of the cattle.
- 17467 I agree with the recommendations, but would like to interject some observations. The earn-a-buck scenario previously used only reduces the overall harvest, and skews the numbers. With the new registration process, there is no way to accurately monitor harvest numbers, making the data gathered worthless. I feel even more strongly regarding an antlerless only harvest - this would result in reduced license sales as well as a reduced number of deer harvested for the area. I regularly plan on the Holiday hunt and was upset when I read there was no hunt scheduled for the 2017 season. Thank you for opening that option again. I also have been a strong proponent of extending the bow season until the end of January. I feel this should be a standard closing date state-wide, whether a holiday hunt is an option or not - we should have consistency across the board to reduce confusion.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17468 With the growing concern and spread of CWD throughout the unit, I feel that testing should be mandatory, or rewarded in some way to promote more testing. The current process of online or over the phone registration is allowing too much leniency, and increasing potential for CWD dispersion. The DNR needs to hold hunters more accountable, even if that means making unpopular decisions. The future of deer hunting is holding on by a thread. Decisions need to be made based on what is best for long term deer herd health, and not short term hunter satisfaction. Let's be real here, the hunters complaining are the ones that want to do less and have more opportunity. Bring earn-a-buck back, force population control in areas where hunters refuse to harvest antlerless deer. Regards, Thomas MIsna
- 17469 I do not feel there is an abundance of deer where I hunt. Other areas in the county seem like there could be a problem. I don't feel as though you can manage the deer in any smaller of an area though. The number of free tags where I hunt hurts the population as well as my neighbors open season. In places within the county just driving a mile or two can make a huge difference in numbers. I think that the county zone framework is better than the old units. If I was micromanaging around me I'd like to see a maximum number of does taken per farm, but if you go two miles away there should be no limit. I just don't know how you could ever manage that.
- 17470 During the 2017 season I saw more deer than 2016. Most of the additional deer were antlerless. The number of bucks I saw was about the same. The last two hours of the bow season, I saw a minimum of 15 deer from my stand. With all the coming and going I was trying not to count the same deer twice. I could have seen as many as about 25, but there were positively no fewer than 15 deer around. Friends that hunt around the area had similar experiences in their hunt areas. I believe we need to try to decrease not maintain levels.
- 17471 Mild Winters for the past three years have had a dramatic impact on the number of young deer seen in this management unit. The forests are beginning to look a lot like ones I had seen hunting in SE PA where they are over browsed and only invasive/undesirable plants are getting a foothold in the understory. It is amazing to me the sheer number of deer that need to be harvested to actually bring the population numbers down with hunting. Better to do it sooner than when the herd is clearly out of control.
- 17472 Please consider recommendations for reduced Crossbow season based on data reflecting the increasing harvest success rate with this weapon, which I believe will only continue to rise as the sale of more crossbows and increased technology. There is a distinct advantage with crossbows requiring very little to no movement in a tree or blind versus going through the draw cycle of a vertical compound bow...not to mention the arrow speed and increased effective range of crossbows.
- 17473 There are way too many people on public land during the Wisconsin Gun season. Kickapoo Valley Reserve is a prime example of over hunting. Group hunting on public land should not be allowed. If the deer couldn't seek refuge on private land adjacent to the Reserve the deer population would be even lower than it is now.
- 17474 Quality of the deer population has drastically decreased. We need to practice quality deer management. Drives where countless deer are injured and left to die are very harmful. There should be a law implemented to protect deer from injury or hunters from other reckless hunting activity which involves driving.
- 17475 There needs to be less hunting pressure. Between all of the bird, small game hunting and +/- 4 months of deer hunting including multiple gun hunts between youth and antlerless the herd is stressed and becoming nocturnal. Reduce the pressure and the success/kill rate will increase.
- 17476 In the southern units in Wisconsin in the middle of September the foliage is still very dense and the weather is generally very warm for Bowhunting-Crossbow hunting. I think the season should start 2(two) weeks later, which is more reasonable. Thanks. 0
- 17477 There are too many deer. I'm for more hunting now with a CWD testing mandatory in areas positive for CWD. Hunters should pay for this public health issue. The deer herd is too large. To conduct the hunt so business can profit at the expense of public health is wrong.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17478 Public land during the Wisconsin Gun season is over hunted. The number of hunter on public land is scary. Kickapoo Valley Reserve is a prime example of over hunting. Far to many doe tags available for public land. Group hunting should not be allowed on public land!
- 17479 You should change the muzzleloader season to a heritage season that includes use of straight cased cartridges with open sights and handguns. These are no more or less lethal than modern muzzleloaders but are significantly more fun to take out.
- 17480 My concern is the population which is getting smaller we need to go to a 1 tag per person for 5 years with no bonus tags . If you shoot one with a gun your done same for bow hunters. Thank You, Michael Heckert
- 17481 DNR needs to continue to rely on science based data and not public emotions when setting harvest quotas and other rules pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping, etc.Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
- 17482 Too many private lands that hold the deer in our area. Making it difficult to manage the deer herd. And hunters that do not control the doe deer herd. Buck only hunters if you will.
- 17483 I am getting concerned about the number of predators. I have pictures of bears , bobcats coyotes and wolves. It seems like at some point they will have an impact on our population.
- 17484 I would like to see deer management turn towards an older age structure for bigger and better quality of bucks by possibly implementing a 4 point on one side antler restriction.
- 17485 Reduce the buck harvest to 1 per season per individual. Meaning if you shoot a buck with your bow you are no longer able to shoot a buck with your gun.
- 17486 My worries on extending deer hunts we hurt other recreational activities such as snowmobiling and that tourism side of our economy.
- 17487 The antlerless numbers I had seen on camera are slightly down,older bucks seemed almost non-existent
- 17488 Deer numbers where the Amish live are very very low. They need to have their own hunting zone !!!
- 17489 What is being done now that there have been reported CWD cases in this unit?
- 17490 The deer herd is getting too large. We need to cull more.
- 17491 No holiday hunt 2018.
- 18075



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Vilas, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

180 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 86
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 51
I hunt in this unit: 146
General interest in this unit: 35

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 132
Bow: 77
Crossbow: 46
Muzzleloader: 47

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.64
Maximum: 55

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 32
Mostly Private Land: 15
Public and Private Land About Equally: 25
Mostly Public Land: 24
Exclusively Public Land: 49
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 0
Not too crowded: 12
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 24
Somewhat crowded: 35
Very crowded: 41
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 23
Fewer: 31
Same: 51
More: 51
Many More: 19
Unsure: 5

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	11	28	42	25	69	4



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	13	16	39	38	69	4
Bonus Tags - Public land:	9	27	34	35	72	2
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	19	146	14
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		72	100	7

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.07
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	2.03
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.25
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.56
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.15
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.08
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	1.94
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.37
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.84
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.22
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.47



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Vilas, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17492 The only deer I see in Vilas County are near homes. Despite the feeding and baiting ban, people continue to feed. Go 1/2 mile away from homes and there are almost no deer. There are two reasons for this: feeding around homes and the deer seek shelter near homes from wolf depredation. I have to fence off hardwood seedlings around my house in attempt to get regeneration. Out in the woods, where there's been timber harvest I see regeneration of Red Maple, Red Oak and Paper Birch, all species deer prefer and evidence that there are few deer in those areas. Wolf and coyote populations continue to be high and are having an impact on the deer population. I've got one fresh kill less than 100 yards from my house. One of my neighbors watched a wolf kill a yearling in his back yard. People don't come to Vilas County to hunt deer like they used to. I hunt the first 3 days of the season with family farther south, partly for the camaraderie, partly because I have a better chance of seeing a deer there. They don't want to come up to hunt with me due to the lack of deer. Increasing antlerless deer harvest will have an adverse impact on a herd that is just starting to come back a little. A very foolish idea to start shooting off our breeding population at this time. State Forest managers should be increasing the amount of timber cut, clearcutting early successional species and select cutting shade tolerant species to improve habitat. Also, outreach is needed to private landowners. I see too many stands of beautiful timber, like a park, not a twig for a deer to eat. It's a waist of a resource, lacking in biological diversity and there are markets for those forest products.

17493 WELL, IT IS DISGUSTING AND DEPLORABLE TO BE HONEST, HOW THE DNR HAS MANAGED THE DEER HERD IN THIS AREA AND OTHERS, THE PAST 20 -25 YEARS THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN THE DEER HERD. WHY ? " I BELIEVE ITS ALL ABOUT MONEY WITH YOU PEOPLE. SELL THE MOST PERMITS. It literally has been a joke , you have the bad winters in Wisconsin, you created t-zones that decimated the herd, on top of the disgusting wolf population that is ever increasing, its a damn joke. I have never seen more wolf tracks in my life of hunting up there over the years, not to mention deer carcasses. I hunted over by farming road back in that area, what a joke. let these deer grow, maybe have no hunting up there for a few years period to bring the herd back , not just in this area but others up there, CARTER OFF OF HWY 52 BETWEEN HWY 32 , Diamond roof road area. YOU RUINED HUNTING, I JUST LIKE BEING IN THE OUTDOORS AND IT IS NOT ABOUT THE KILL, the problem is you never see any deer. I think you get my point, and I am not the only one talking about this. I seen a bow hunter in the Minocqua area off of hwy 51 farming road area and he and others said the same damn thing. You have to monitor the wolf population it is frankly that simple , there are enough other predators out there, besides car deer accidents, bear, coyote, wild dogs. now the PACK OF WOLVES. I remember being followed out by a pack when I was coming out of the woods back in 2002, In the diamond roof road area. GET THIS UNDER CONTROL. a person cannot even go out and see a nice deer anymore, unless you have private land.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

17494 I feel that the Vilas deer population is the lowest I've ever seen it. I have been going to the Vilas county area my entire life and can't believe how much the deer herd has changed. I have over a million dollars invested in land, which I have owned for over twenty years and honestly I think I would be better to sell it and buy land down south where there are actually deer to hunt and less wolves. On my property it is extremely easy to find wolf tracks and spots where deer have been killed by them. On the other hand it is extremely hard to see bucks anymore and the number of deer tracks on my land has decreased significantly. I feel that if the DNR continues to hand out tags we won't have anything left for the future. Like I said before, it's almost not even worth the time trying to hunt in Vilas. It's sad to see, but year after year we hand out tags, we are told it's to control the population. I ask you, the DNR, what population. Being a large land owner I haven't seen it in many years and it only continues to get worse. We need a change toward true conservation. We are the biggest threat to our own great outdoors. We need to back off on the overkilling of deer and we need to address the growing wolf population, which I can guarantee is much higher than what most people are told. I have hundreds of pictures to prove. Please make a change for future generations. It's far worse than you think and in the long run it will only hurt tourism, local business, and people that want to enjoy the great gifts of our land.

17495 I would recommend that the committee consider the following when making their final antlerless quota: 1. The current numbers were proposed based on last year's buck harvest. Last year the rut was still in progress during the gun season thus making bucks more vulnerable to harvest, therefore inflating buck kill numbers. I saw nowhere in the report a mention of this. 2. I believe the winter severity index will be much higher based on recent late snowfalls in March and April so far with more on its way. I believe DNR wildlife biologist stated April can be a critical month and it looks like it's going to add significantly to the index numbers. 3. With the ability of all hunters to use crossbows the buck harvest is up significantly because of the accuracy of this weapon of choice, no longer used only by those with disabilities and over 65 years of age. 4. The distribution of deer is still significantly skewed with much higher densities around cities and towns and permanent residents versus county and state lands. 5. We all know predation has considerable impact on deer populations, as reported by many people with trail cameras, they are seeing more bears, coyotes, wolves and bobcats all which prey on deer to some degree. Based on these areas of consideration mentioned, I believe there is strong evidence to consider lowering your current recommendation which was also expressed by many of the public speakers as noted in your meeting minutes.

17496 I THOUGHT THE COUNCIL WAS PROVIDED AN ABUNDANCE OF FACTUAL DATA BY MICHELE FOLLOWED BY HER VERY CONSERVATIVE HARVEST RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THE DATA. THE COUNCIL CONTINUED TO LOWER HER RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON A LOT OF "WHAT IF" CONCERNS. IF YOU LOOK AT THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESULTS OF THE LAST THREE YEARS IN OTHER NORTHERN FOREST COUNTIES YOU CAN GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HER RECOMMENDATIONS. YES, UNEXPECTED THINGS WILL HAPPEN SUCH AS SEVERE WINTERS, BUT AS LONG AS THE DNR DOESN'T DO UNLIMITED ANTLERLESS TAGS AS WAS DONE IN THE PAST, IT WILL ONLY TAKE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE HARVEST QUOTAS THE FOLLOWING YEAR TO REBALANCE THE HERD. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND FOLLOWING THE FACTUAL DATA AND THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE NUMBERS. PRIVATE LAND TENDS TO MANAGE THE HABITAT BETTER THAN PUBLIC LAND. THIS WILL CAUSE HIGHER CONCENTRATIONS OF DEER ON PRIVATE LAND. IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OVER HARVEST RECOMMENDATIONS I SUGGEST MORE TAGS FOR PRIVATE LAND. AS A PRIVATE LAND OWNER I KNOW THE DEER I HAVE ON MY PROPERTY AND I WILL CONTROL THE NUMBER OF HUNTERS AND WHAT THEY HARVEST. I WANT A CONSISTENT HERD. I WANT TO SEE DEER WHEN I HUNT AND I WANT TO KILL SOME DEER EACH YEAR. I WILL MANAGE MY LITTLE SLICE OF VILAS COUNTY AND I THINK MANY OTHER PRIVATE LAND OWNERS WILL DO THE SAME. PUT SOME TRUST IN US TO HELP MANAGE THE HERD IN VILAS COUNTY.



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- 17497 Have been very frustrated with the antlerless only hunting regulations applying to unit 35, when there are no antlerless only permits, but more importantly, when that occurs over a holiday or weekend when I and my son's are only able to take off and bow hunt. Why not have these special doe hunts after the close of the regular season, leaving weekends during bow hunting open to shooting a buck as well. It's bad enough to have to wear blaze orange in the bow stand, worse when you can't even shoot anything because it's closed to shooting buck's with your bow (because it's antlerless somewhere else). If it's the youth antlerless permits driving it, those should be eliminated anyway, other than during regular gun season. My opinion is those are being abused by hunters wishing to harvest a doe to eat (shot by an adult and registered to a youth). When you only have weekends open to bow hunt, giving them up, even one, for antlerless only hunts, when permits are zero to very limited, makes no sense. Hold the antlerless only hunt after the close of the season if there are even any permits left. Shooting does in this zone is not a priority given the low numbers, nor should it be. I have a cabin in Boulder Junction and hunt public land. Thanks for listening.
- 17498 Deer hunting in Vilas county is nothing like it used to be. (Used to see a lot more deer) I'm cautiously optimistic that management of the herd is heading in the right direction. I believe that full time residents of the county (I am not one) should get first chance on 75% of the antlerless tags, and the rest of the tags are first come for non-residents of the county. Limit of 1 antlerless tag per person. Youth/mentored hunters should continue to be allowed an antlered and antlerless harvest. This helps to build the interest in hunting traditions in the state and allow for the excitement of success for our youth. Even though it is not part of this...I have to make the comment about the wolf and the bear population. There are too many of both in Vilas county. If the CDAC can provide any pressure to increase bear permits and continue the push to reduce the wolf population, please do so. The increased predator population has caused the deer to be more stressed, more nocturnal, and many more fawns being killed. The deer in the spring of 2017 were skinnier than I have ever seen due to the added stress from wolves. The 2018 winter is worse than the 2017 winter and I have concerns of the winter mortality, especially with the stress and pressure from wolves.
- 17499 I think going from 0 antlerless to 2,800 antlerless is too big of a jump. Especially with the harshness and length of the 2017/2018 winter. I would support having an antlerless quota of 1,000 - 1,500 being more reasonable, but that quota would not take into account the amount of Junior Antlerless deer tags available if that quota stays the same as 2017. I know that the kids are the future of hunting, but my concern is the amount of potential parents shooting the deer for the kid if 0 antlerless tags are available to adults. We DID see a tremendous increase in the number of antlerless deer, but that is a relative number. Our deer sightings vs. 2016 hunting season was approx. 60% greater in 2017. We saw a total of 18 antlerless deer and 2 antlered deer during our 1 day of scouting and 5 days of hunting, and that is a total of 25.5 man days in the woods. (I shot a legal buck mid afternoon of the 1st day). We scout from an hour after sunup to almost sundown on Friday, and we hunt from legal shooting light to legal shooting light. 5 hunters. There is absolutely no agriculture in our hunting area unless you consider logging agriculture. The deer live on browse and on any grasses they can find. There are no mast trees where we hunt. Maple and conifers.



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- 17500 A quality buck herd is way over due in northern WI. The old deer camp belief that a 3" antler is a mature buck is long in the past and does nothing positive for the sport. It's time we introduce a 3 point on one side or similar type size requirement for a legal buck. There is absolutely no reason why 130" or larger shouldn't be considered an average size buck in this area. This approach doesn't change the number of deer, only the quality. Increased length requirements are working well for muskies and has improved the quality of fish in my area and attracts fisherman that have never considered trying to catch and release a 50+" musky in our smaller WI lakes. Now these serious musky fisherman, including myself, don't feel it's necessary to travel to MN and Canada to find these large fish. If our state could produce a quality buck herd in the northern forest region, it's reasonable to assume our non resident hunter numbers would increase dramatically and our non resident license fee could increase to benefit the state, herd, sport, local economy and improve our states reputation as a sportsman's premier destination. As it stands now, if I want to chase a large mature buck, northern WI is not the place to go... Thank you
- 17501 I feel there are still too many deer in the area where I hunt, and support the preliminary quota of 1000 antlerless tags, although I would prefer that number even higher. Over browsing is quite evident and I feel it is having a long term effect on overall forest health. Eastern hemlocks seem to be hit very hard. In all of my hiking travels through the eastern 1/3 of the county I have yet to come across any hemlock trees that are in that 6ft to 20 ft height range; they're all either large mature trees over 50+ ft tall giants or short shrubs that constantly get browsed back each winter. In addition, I've seen evidence of other native plants like red elderberries (shrub), lady slippers (forb) and sugar maple seedlings browsed down to the ground. Plus, when's the last time anyone's ever come across an American Yew (*Taxus canadensis*) in this area of the state? There's many plants in our native flora that have been stressed for a long time due to elevated deer numbers. I support maintaining or even lowering the deer population in this area to take some stress off of these plants and give them a chance to bounce back.
- 17502 If you are going to return to allowing the harvesting of some antlerless deer in 2018, what happens to the archery harvest plan. When you went to zero antlerless harvest seasons several years ago, (which was a farce because you added doe tags to every hunter 18yrs old and under as well as adding the "mentoring program " and decreasing the minimum age for children) you took away the ability for archers to harvest antlerless deer. Now that the antlerless harvest is reinstated, will archers (and disabled crossbow folks) have their antlerless tags reinstated again? Or did you totally forget about us? Also, did anyone consider the current population of free ranging (not pack-orientated) timber wolves in Vilas County? If you simply used census data and sighting statistics for estimating deer populations without adding timber wolf data, your numbers are going to be way off again. I've lived in the heart of Vilas County year-round for 31 years and I can tell you that there are MANY (maybe hundreds) of timber wolves in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest that have no idea what a wolf "pack" is.
- 17503 First of all I do not agree with harvesting 1000 does. If this is the number you want harvested then have a 1000 tags. The success rate will be very high, any body who hunted more than a day would tell you everybody seen does which could have been shot. The problem is the lack of mature bucks to harvest, it is very hard to even see a buck. Ever since baiting has been illegal in the county, seeing deer is not a problem. The public vs. private tag allotment is just plain wrong why are people who own land rewarded with extra tags? Another thing which needs to be fixed is allowing youth hunters to shoot does every year until they are a adult. One or two times, should only be allowed just so they can experience getting a deer in their first couple years. There is a growing discontent among older hunters with a fair amount of the rule changes, we are becoming more frustrated with hunting as a whole. Keep making changes and more of us will say enough is enough and give it up all together. The State seems to base all its decisions on what brings in more revenue for them than what is good for hunting.



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- 17504 I still see year after year the decline of any larger size bucks. Year after year the nubby buck fawns are the ones getting harvested. They have zero / no chance of getting older and becoming larger sized deer. This strategy continues and there seems to be no effort in changing the minds of any hunting advisory groups out there, including the DNR. In my opinion and opinion of other hunters, lets have a minimum requirement of a must have at least a fork horn size rack in order to be harvested. I believe maybe a one to two year trial of this would definitely help in getting those nubby bucks to grow into larger deer. The number of antler less permits and bonus tags that are being recommended are way too high and we will see nothing the next year, in 2019 as some people will harvest any size deer. The continued increase of the wolf population is killing way too many deer and it shows in the woods all around the area. There needs to be something done, in one way or another otherwise we will not see any deer in the future.
- 17505 You want to maintain what? You can not maintain what is not there, unless you hunt by the lake houses..... You should be trying to increase the herd, I mean why do you think no one hunts up there, that much anymore... Vilas is hanging on, at best. Poor poor forest mgt, from the Feds, tons of baiting and feeding at the lake homes, concentrates deer in an unnatural area,, and they are harassed by wolves, lots of stress..... I would take a chain saw to the whole county, and bring back young growth..... the deer herd will never ever, be what it once was,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, The wolves have taken care of that,, and they are out of control, short of disease, the wolves will continue to run the herd down,,,,, no amount of trapping or hunting tags will ever be issued to make a difference on the wolves, if they ever are delisted..... It is a shame how they have wrecked the deer season in such a great county, and have hurt local merchants who no more count on deer hunting to be much to count on,,,,
- 17506 Through observation throughout the year I felt the herd in Northwest Vilas county was on the rebound well from some severe winters. We observed a variety of does and twin fawns in the summer and fall. I felt deer sightings were up during gun season because of a herd increase, but I think the tail end of the rut had the deer moving during the early part of the gun season. January we observed a similar numbers of deer, but Winter has stayed around well into April with deep, crusted snow. Spending two weekends snowshoeing in late March, deer were still observed but physical appearance showed stress with loss of fat, and difficulty getting around. Also, in the woods the deer were feeding on the poor quality of browse. I am concerned with a late Spring we will experience some mortality that is above average from the last two years. With those thoughts I would hope we would not add antlerless tags, even for the youth hunt and continue to stay Buck only for one more season.
- 17507 I have owned a few hundred acres in Vilas since the mid 90's. My son and I used to love to hunt up there. When we first purchased the property and for about 10 years after, we used to see a decent amount of deer. The population was healthy and harvesting a few deer was far from a problem. Over the last 10 years I cant believe how many less deer we see. Its beyond substantial and it's heartbreaking. Its not really even worth hunting up there anymore, but its still nice to enjoy the great outdoors. For the amount of time we spend up there I sure hope something changes. Overhunting and a growing wolf population has only wrecked something that was once sustainable. Now I doubt things will ever be the way they once were. I sure hope someone in the DNR will take notice of this and finally do something, so hopefully future generations will have a chance to enjoy what I once did. I cant stress enough as a landowner how bad things are. We need change and we need it now!



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- 17508 If the above is true, for 2018 1900 Private Land and 900 Public Land antlerless tags will be available --
Hallelujah!!! I own land in Vilas and it has been Buck Only for so many years, due to previous mismanagement, in my opinion. However, my party of 5 hunters has always only wanted to harvest one deer per year as a group, and frankly do not see bucks. We've seen does for the past many years I can remember, only to not be able to shoot does. I have given years of feedback that, at a minimum, land owners should be allowed 1 antlerless tag per year. I do also think the wolves and bear have taken out many deer/fawns and the herd is getting better, due to the doe restrictions, but not like it used to be 20-25 years ago, when deer were plentiful. This news is along time coming. THANK YOU. I'm still in shock that we might actually be able to hunt and shoot something this year, and have some meat to share with my hunting party.
- 17509 Real biologist and wildlife managers KNOW that artificially high deer numbers/herbivory has a negative effect on northern forested areas. Yet, they are being forced to bow to the cry of many hunters (and the politicians who are bought by them) who know only that they want more of one species...deer...everywhere. This does not make logical sense to anyone with an understanding of ecological principles. We cannot continue to pretend that high deer numbers, and low predator numbers is a good thing. The public needs to be educated to the fact that continually harvesting bucks, and allowing antlerless deer (does) to survive is NOT the way to produce trophy bucks or a healthy herd. The DNR and tourism industry needs to promote the idea that does taste better, and encourage the taking of antlerless deer for meat, rather than "big bucks" for trophies. Growing the herd is NOT going to increase the number of trophy bucks. Period.
- 17510 Dear CDAC your recommendation of 1000 antlerless permits is ridiculous. As of 4-1-18 I personally measured over 22" of snow still remaining on the ground and more on the way 4-3-18. The deer are at a critical point of survival and spring is not soon to be arriving. Maximum antlerless permits for 2018 should be 150 for public land or less and maximum 300 for private because you know all the locals will register any die shot on a public tag anyway. The winter servarity index has to be approaching 100 the herd is just recovering don't jump the gun and reduce them now this will end up a severe winter and we will start losing deer in April and May please reconsider your antlerless recommendation because of the prolonged winter I would recommend 0 quota for public and maybe 200 for public please listen to hunters who check conditions observe deer and care about our deer hunting Thank You
- 17511 Sat for three days and saw nothing!! Very frustrating!! Four guys in our group. two saw the same small buck both passed it only to hear it shot by another hunter! Ridiculous protect the younger bucks antler restrictions need to be put into place for a couple of years up here!! What's the point of going up renting a hotel or spending money going out to eat! It's hurting reasturant and bar businesses. By Saturday afternoon everyone is going home. Then there are even less guys in the woods no pressure so deer won't move. Can't say it enough. Protect the younger bucks!!!! Make the hunter more of a hunter and less of a have to have it now hunter! Everyone will be better of in the near future. It will hurt the first year. But by next season you will see the results. Protect younger bucks! No baiting up here either makes the deer nocturnal. Thank you for this opportunity.
- 17512 I fell we are just starting to resurrect the deer herd now I have totally lost interest in hunting becasure of years of to many antlerless tags given out and the implemmentation of the wolf I feel has hurt the deer herd immensely.i remember when I was younger seeing 50 to 200 deer in fields around vilas county and I feel we haven't lost enough habitat to support a larger deer herd .males and females old and young all want to see more deer and everytime you take a doe out of the equation you are losing 2 to 3 deer every year I run a towing service and I think with the vilas county sheriffs dept. I only had 2 deer hits last year that required a tow . I would say if you went 2 more years of no antlerlesstags and then take another look at the deer population would be a more appropriate step to take.i appreciate the opportunity to expree my views thank you very much



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- 17513 I think the way the question about the perceived number of deer in my DMU should be framed differently. The amount of deer "seen" from one year to the next is highly variable and not just a function of the number of deer in the population. Hunter effort, deer movement patterns, vegetation structure (food for deer), weather, predator presence and movement, etc. all have an influence on the amount of deer seen from year to year by each individual hunter. It may be more useful to ask if hunters in general perceive there being more, less, or the same number of deer in there DMU as the year before. I support offering antlerless tags in my DMU but the amount seems too high. Going from zero to the amounts proposed is a large increase. If a unit decided on zero antlerless tags that should mean zero...no tags for any group of hunters including youth tags.
- 17514 I am in the Conover area for weeks nearly every month of the year. I have observed a great increase in the number of does in the area and in my yard. I feel it is time to have a limited doe season to keep the numbers in check. It is also important to provide young hunters an opportunity to harvest a deer if we want to keep the hunting culture alive in Vilas County. Young people only have a limited time to hunt due to school and other activities so we need to provide them with an opportunity to harvest a deer to keep their interest in the sport. If you want to keep out of state hunters, like me, coming to Vilas County, then the public areas need to have more than 900 permits for doe and less on private land. We spend a lot of money in the county when we are there for a good part of October and November to hunt.
- 17515 Over the years the number of people hunting in this area has fallen like a rock due to the fact that the deer population is so down due to weather and predators and of course hunters. I probably hunted 60 or more days in 15 and 16 and saw, get this 6 deer each year. This year I was not going to buy a gun license but caved the night before the hunt. Another year without shooting a deer. I hunted for two months in 17 before I saw a deer. Hard for me to believe, then again I was not hunting over bait due to the cwd at the local game farm. I still find it hard to figure out how you can permit those game farms to continue to have cwd present on them. But then again I am not all that tolerant of stupid people, so go figure. Less and less people are hunting every year, I think your policies are helping that along.
- 17516 The antlerless quota is too high in light of the deep snow and unusually cold temperatures experienced in the county this year. The prevalence of wolves and other predators makes it difficult to maintain or grow our deer population. While I did observe more deer in the area during the bow season, the deer disappeared for the most part about a week before gun season. I believe that the biggest reason for this is many people feed and bait for deer. Violators should be fined, not warned. (Baiting and feeding should be banned statewide.) CWD in our herd obviously impacts the numbers of deer, but also poses unknown risks to humans. We need more drop-off sites in our county to encourage hunters to have their deer tested to determine if CWD exists in the wild herd.
- 17517 We see very few deer in the area we hunt. West of hwy 51 in the Camp Lake area. Trail camera's on trails record very few sightings. Wolf tracks present, heard them howling opening evening. Deer seen all the time in and around cabins and homes by the lakes etc. There has to be people feeding them year round in these areas. Buck only, no taking of does in youth hunts. It should be totally illegal for an adult to use a youth tag to shoot a antlerless deer. I have often heard this said that adults are buying their kids licences so they will have a antlerless tag to use. My son and I have hunted here since the mid 90's. we got a buck this year. Last one was 2009. This was the first that was seen that was able to be shot, we hunt with gun and bow.
- 17518 I have hunted Western Vilas Co. for over 40 years and deer populations are recovering very slowly from various factors which include winter severity and predators. I strongly believe that this area has the ability to support a much larger deer population. I am an avid outdoorsman who spends hundreds of hours in the outdoors and I pay close attention to all species of wildlife. Many hunters have stopped hunting because of not seeing deer in our area. Harvesting a deer is not as important to many as simply seeing deer. I strongly encourage another year or more of no antlerless permits for our region with the exception of youth hunters. In order to get more hunters in the woods we need more deer in the woods!!



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- 17519 Ban on baiting during the seasons. Baiting throws deer off regular feeding patterns. Forget the extra hunts. First time hunters should follow the same rules as all other hunters, not have an any sex harvest. Lowering the age of legal hunters was a mistake, allowing experienced hunters to harvest more than one deer under the kids license. Muzzle loaders are firearms and should not have a special season. (I hunted regular gun season in the past with a true muzzle loader, there is no issue with these weapons to prevent use during the regular season.) Open the archery season up again to one either sex deer, no bonus tags up here. Loose the turkey lottery, since there are so many and they eat lots of deer browse.
- 17520 The deer numbers are nothing close to what they used to be.tired of hearing about car/deer collisions as there are more and more vehicles on the road every year ,to say collisions are high because the deer population is high is the dumbest thing I ever heard.perhaps it's time for the cdac committee to be dismantled because they do a horrible job as far as deer management statewide.also it's time youth hunters only get doe tags their first year of hunting.why should my neighbor with 4 kids be able to shoot 8 does a year and I can't shoot 1 that is so wrong,you want kids to hunt build the deer herd like it was 20 yrs ago so they can see enough to keep interest.keep up the piss poor job!
- 17521 I feel that the gains of the last three years of the deer heard growth will be taken away by this quota proposal and more time should be given to the deer herd to rebound to a more representative number to help our tourism based area. It took almost ten years to reduce the deer herd it will take more than three years to bring it back. If a quota that high is needed, why have the last several years of buck harvest not shown increased harvest. By reducing the doe numbers would that not be anti productive to the number of buck fawns born? Anterless quota would also remove numbers of young buck fawns. Is this not what got us in this position in the first place? Thank you and good luck
- 17522 A few observations from the field. During this years past gun deer season hunting in the old DMU 36, I hunted 7 days of the gun season and 6 days of the muzzle loader season and saw only 5 deer total. 10 years ago, I would average 10-15 deer on opening weekend alone. Hunting pressure in the area was slightly down from previous years and non existent during the muzzle loader season. Weather was no impact on hunting this year. During this winter and early spring, I have observed more deer than past years driving the roads of Vilas county. Lastly due to the sustained cold and snow we are experiencing this year, please keep the WSI in mind in making quota goals this year.
- 17524 It is common to see herds of deer from 5 to 15 moving through the forests of Vilas County. There should be no baiting, so these deer should be out moving and huntable this fall. Please increase the number of harvest tags for does and fawns. We cannot stockpile deer on the landscape and they are beginning to overbrowse what is available. More tags equals more tourism and more opportunity to get new hunters of all ages out in the woods or re-engaged in hunting. I don't see other hunters or have any crowding on public land because we have fewer hunters in general. More opportunity will make for more hunters and that's a good thing!
- 17525 The pressure on the buck harvest has been too great in past years. With few or no doe tags issued any legal buck is being shot. There seem to be more does around but we have no older age class bucks. A healthy deer population need animals in all age classes. I would like to see a limited number of antler less tags issued and no buck harvest for at least one year to get some older age class animals in the population. If there was no buck harvest for two years people would see a notable amount of bigger bucks. This would increase the desire of hunters in future years to come to the area, hunt more, spend more in the local economy etc.
- 17523 I spend a lot of time in the woods, scouting for bow season and hunting bow and gun season. I have 25 years of hunting experience in the state forest in Vilas county. In my opinion, the deer herd is a lot lower than at anytime in recent history and is still not ready for a season which includes hunting of does. As of April 3, when I'm submitting this survey, there is still 2 feet of snow on the ground . I'm worried that the deer herd is barely holding its own with the winter kill and the predators. I think a season that allows shooting does would be a step backward in the effort to rebuild the deer herd to a historic population level.



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- 17526 Yesterday my husband and I took a long drive on plowed but mostly back roads in Vilas County. We saw so many deer in mid afternoon, it was shocking. It seems they were most gathered near the lake developments. most of these deer looked thin and small, not healthy. I think all the years of feeding have harmed the deer, as they continue to gather in the areas they were once fed in. Deer destroy most everything I try to grow, last fall they even ate off my thorny raspberry plants. I suspect a good deer population for this area would be much lower than hunters want, but the plant life here can not sustain these high numbers. Jane
- 17527 in comparison to several decades past, there are too many deer and too few good size bucks. I think the feeding craze harmed the herd health and has jeopardized the future health of the wild herd. There is no place for feeding in deer management, the CWD so prevalent on game farms demonstrates that. Allow the biologists to make the deer decisions, not the vocal hunters. The forest health and the understory are severely stressed in Vilas County (and most of the state) since the population explosion of deer about 20 years ago. I have an oak forest in Adams County, can not grow red oak as the deer destroy the young trees. Jim
- 17528 I have hunted deer in Northern Vilas County for almost 50 years. I have never seen (visually and on camera) so few bucks in the last 10 years or so to the point where they appear to be non existent except for some spikes and forks as of late. Doe population has been very low but are making a comeback the last 2-3 years. As stated, the buck ratio is low and buck age is very young. As you know, the number of hunters has dramatically decreased for a variety of reasons. I highly recommend a northern forest zone season that starts a week earlier for greater participation and more days afield. Thanks.
- 17529 I have hunted the same public section for 25 years in a hunting camp of 7-9 hunters. We have only actually seen 5 living deer, and only one was harvested. In the past 8 years. The total population is extremely low. It is my belief over harvest during the 90's and early 2000's caused this. Now the recovery of the herd is much slower than it was during the 90's. Exactly why I'm not sure. I feel wolf and bear predation has increased over recent years causing this as well as hunters harvests of antlerless also slowing things. I think the science of this deadly trifecta is poorly understood.
- 17530 With the lack of deer we see were we hunt its crazy to think about any anterless quota at all let alone 1900. We rarely see any fawns so lets shoot all the future deer. With a hard winter there goes all the deer. It is hard to get excited for hunting when you hardly see any deer. We have own the land for a long time and it seems that the hunting is not getting better only worse. We have kids that hunt with us and its hard to get them hook on hunting when some days you do not even see a deer. We need to stop worrying about the money and and worry about the hunter.
- 17531 I would like to see a either or tag system implemented with no extra tags. 1 tag per Hunter equals 1 deer. You choose the weapon and type of deer harvested. Meat hunters can shoot the first deer they see if desired and trophy hunters can hold out. All we have been seeing in the st. Germain area are does and spikes the last couple years. Alot of the does are mature and ready to be harvested. There has been an over harvest of bucks in the last few seasons. It is time to allow hunters to harvest antlerless deer and give the bucks a rest.
- 17532 With this winter dragging on , and another possible heavy snow coming [4/13 -4/16] I don't believe that the there should be an antlerless hunt in Vilas county for 2018. The deer that I am seeing all see to struggling for food options right now , and if this coming snow is that heavy we are delaying open ground and more food that much longer. Right now I think we are looking at alot of single fawns being born this year . If that is a 50/50 buck /doe ratio ,then with an antlerless season you are going to lose alot of those future bucks.
- 17533 1. Being an Avid Bowhunter (Compound) and investing much time into it per year I would like to see a 1 buck limit per year for hunter. A hunter would still be able to obtain to kill tags but one would have to be antlerless. This would protect many younger deer from being shot but also provide the opportunity to harvest some meat for the year. 2. I am in favor of an APR (Antler Point Restriction) being put into place. PLEASE look at the 12 counties in lower Michigan that implemented it and the success they are having with it. Thanks



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- 17534 I am a landowner in Vilas, but do not live in the county. I hunt everything from Ducks to Deer in Vilas for the last 14 years. Deer numbers are on the increase. Private land owners must do their part in shooting some does once tags are available. I believe predation especially of fawns can be a serious issue in certain areas. I would encourage the harvest of antlerless deer in Vilas before we get a devastating winter kill. Based on numbers of Deer I am seeing, Vilas hunters should start to harvest some antlerless deer.
- 17535 The overall deer sightings and population has significantly decreased progressively over the past 10 - 15 years. I contribute this to the many years of excessive doe permits wolf predation forestry management and the 24 hour a day shooting of deer by the native americans. During one week of grouse hunting I found 22 carcasses of dead deer in the area I where i own land. The forestry department seems to manage for red pine killing most of the aspen trees,very little if any food anymore compared to years back.
- 17536 Would like to see more balanced buck to doe ratio and larger (more mature) bucks. Wish management would consider limiting only 1 buck per hunter, regardless of what season it is taken (one and done). Also consider no "party" or cross tagging. Too much pressure on young bucks by individual hunters, especially in years when there is no quota for does. Hunters then harvest multiple yearling bucks in multiple seasons and/or tag for other hunters. Rarely do I see a buck that appears to be older than a yearling.
- 17537 This is the first year in 4 years our group of 7 hunters started seeing deer again. I feel the herd is still below the population quota. I think you should leave the deer seasons in Vilas County the way they were for a few more seasons. It's a shame when you just starting seeing deer again they go ahead and give 1000 antlerless tags away. That's a lot of next years fawns, who have a tough time surviving the extreme northern climates and predation. Please reconsider the antlerless tags for Vilas. Thank You
- 17538 I was disappointed with no antlerless tags last year. I believe the deer population is healthy enough to issue a buck and doe tags to each hunter. If the population is too low I believe the dnr should sell either or tags. There will be hunters who pass on does to fill their tag with a buck however families that depend on a deer to offset meat costs through the winter would be able to harvest a doe for meat if they don't see a buck or choose to sacrifice their chance at a buck for a doe in the freezer.
- 17539 I did feel there was a good population of deer but most I saw were young. I saw very little mature buck sign and none on my field cameras. This winter has been harsh so I feel one more year of no antlerless tags would help make sure the the herd will stay strong. I am and always will be pro baiting in small quantities. Deer interact in the woods naturally and I have observed them fighting for same cedar branch or oak droppings so time to quit using the CWD transfer as a basis to stop baiting.
- 17540 I have land in Vilas county for 20 years and at first it was very good for hunting deer . I have not shot a deer in three years because of the no. of deer I see on 300 acres . I would be better to sell the land and invest some where else to hunt . For what I pay in taxes and not seeing any deer like I did 5 years ago it is time to move on ware there are no wolfs . Until we stop the wolf I do not feel the deer herd will come back . I can show you many picture of deer being killed by the wolf .
- 17541 Since the mid-March CDAC meeting in Boulder Jct., northern Vilas County has continued to experience moderate to severe winter weather. The low temp recorded on April 8th in Land o' Lakes was a record shattering -11F, with snow cover exceeding 20". Therefore, the Winter Severity Index referred to at the meeting is no longer accurate. Based upon this most recent weather data, I would prefer to see the 2018 antlerless quota reduced from the proposed 1,000, to a more conservative total.
- 17542 Without any wolf control mechanism, no supplemental feeding, and a lengthy winter, I cannot support any public land doe harvests. And the numbers of recent season youth antlerless harvests, in combination with the new tagging procedure make me suspect that this harvest will also increase and have abuse potential. Therefore I recommend the youth antlerless tags not be allowed in Vilas Co. They should seek hunting opportunities in locations with populations that need more harvest.



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- 17543 I think we should maintain a high doe population, eliminate youth hunt doe tags and eliminate baiting indefinitely. We need to focus on CWD. I care more about the population than baiting a deer. I've taken deer without bait and with a little extra effort it's not hard. Also, there are too many adult hunters taking does with youth tags. It needs to be regulated better. Thanks for giving us an opportunity to voice our opinions.
- 17544 An over abundance of small, thin, sickly looking deer have taken over the county. Perhaps we need more wolves to control the deer numbers. As the spring snow recedes at my cabin in eastern Vilas, the tops of the young trees, especially small white pine and hemlock are eaten off, making tree regeneration very difficult. Keep numbers of deer low enough to avoid a disaster should we have a severe winter. Do not allow feeding of deer.
- 17545 I thank the CDAC for their work and am very glad to see some antlerless permits for the county. Our group has seen a good increase in the number of deer including does and fawns, but we need to address their numbers gradually as they grow, not wait for them to be super abundant. Some doe tags will bring some hunters back to the north and benefit the local businesses. This is great to see. Thank you again for your work.
- 17546 We moved here in the early 80's, deer numbers were much lower but the deer were more evenly dispersed in the northwoods and we had some big impressive bucks. My husband used to hunt (now deceased) as did my kids, none has an interest in hunting any longer as they say the deer look sickly and small and are congregated near people. I suspect these problems are a result of years of feeding, which has been a very bad practice.
- 17547 If baiting and feeding is to stop, then ban "buck lure." Move the October youth hunt back to the last weekend in October to give youth a chance of getting a large rutting buck. Allow senior gun-deer hunters to participate in the 2 day October youth hunt to avoid the unpredictable weather the last weekend in November; or set separate Senior Weekend gun-deer season for those age 65 or 70 and older.
- 17548 Thanks for FINALLY providing some public land antlerless tags. Our group may return to hunt Vilas Cnty in 2018. I really believe the vast amount of public land in Vilas can withstand more antlerless harvest. Only 900 tags available on 410 square miles of public land deer range? A success rate of 33% would equate to a harvest of less than 1 antlerless deer per sq mile. Come on, man!
- 17549 While private land hunting in Villas county over the past two years I have seen roughly 20-25 Doe per Buck. Anterless deer were in the streets, eating apples and carrots in the gas stations, they are everywhere. I would support the harvesting of anterless to the highest degree just based on the sheer amount of anterless deer in that unit and I've only been in that region for two years
- 17550 I see no bucks . I have seen the number of bucks decrease since I have been hunting Vilas County. Without the ability to bait finding bucks is difficult. I don't understand how a deer farm can control baiting for a 3 county area. I don't believe there have been any CWD cases documented outside of that deer farm. If you want to correct CWD shut down that deer farm in Three Lakes...
- 17551 It would be a great mistake to make a unit antlerless only, unless every Hunter is guaranteed a tag. Also to do away with group hunting for the 9 day gun deer season would dramatically reduce the number of hunters. This is such a deep tradition in wisconsin which creates wealth in the economy. Many groups would break apart and ruin the tradition and passion of gun deer hunting.
- 17552 I like the idea of an antlerless only hunt option and no buck kill. Going forward there should be a structured buck kill that requires a minimum of 3 or 4 points a side before harvesting. The several seasons that we have had with buck only harvesting have decimated the bucks of the northern herd in the areas where they were buck only. The bucks now need help. Get this right!
- 17553 I hunted for 7 days in the Vilas county forest in Conover. I saw a total of 6 does between archery and firearms season. 2 of those does were during the firearm season. Also I am in favor of question 18. We need to adjust the hunting seasons. seems like the crossbow hunters are have the greatest impact. I cannot make the meeting to vote on question 18. I work 2nd shift.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17554 The whitetail population in this DMU has been clearly declining for a number of years, yet DNR continues to believe the results of harvest data that have not been verified by other means. I know of no hunter who believes the figures DNR publishes for buck or antlerless harvest in the unit. The proposed antlerless quotas are not sustainable in this DMU.
- 17555 I wish you would get a real idea on how few deer we have left in northern wis you have lost revnew and the people have lost business jobs and the state of wis is a laughing stock by all outhur states you have gone to deer registration on line so the public as no idea how bad it really is hope this helps but I do not have much faith
- 17556 in my opinion the new way to register deer without having to have the deer seen by a person, you open the door for people to cheat the system and does not always get the true picture of deer harvest. I actually know people who have registered a buck during the gun season that did not kill one, in order to skew the harvest numbers.
- 17557 hunters have become lazy, as demands for more deer is not based on science. Deer have harmed our forests, herds have become sickly in appearance in comparing to 30 years ago when we had fewer but healthier looking animals and had forest regeneration that was adequate. Never, ever allow feeding of deer. That is a horrible practice.
- 17558 the years of feeding deer have taken a toll on the herd, which is now too high in quantity but too low in quality. The habits of the deer have also become unnatural because of feeding. To those who constantly complain about predators, I say grow up, learn about the balances in nature and tell the truth. Ron
- 17559 I'm looking for a quality hunt and deer herd, not quantity. Too many bucks only season has been bad for our local herd. Poor antler growth and too much pressure on bucks while at the same time deer getting hit by cars on any major highway where people still illegally feeding.
- 17560 We need to be conscious of the other recreational activities in this area during the months of December thru March. Extending or having deer hunts in these months hurts your tourism. The snowmobile season is very limited so consider ending hunting seasons on/before Dec. 1.
- 17561 This unit held good and mostly consistent hunting seasons until 12 years ago and since it has never rebounded. Based on time spent in this area over these years we have noticed heavy predation in the past 12-15 years from different types of species. Coyote Bear and Wolf.
- 17562 unit 35 needs to be antlered deer only for at least 1 more year. also the youth hunt is a joke. get a lic at 1 year old, daddy is pulling the trigger for the meat. also cross bow hunt should be shortened, to many deer are being killed with this weapon.
- 17563 As a landowner in Vilas county and avid deer hunter, I would like to request that we error on the side of caution in issuing antlerless permits. In light of the severity of our April weather, perhaps the motion for 800 permits should be reconsidered.
- 17564 It is being over run by does that have no fear of people because they've never been hunted, I could've pet one deer that wouldn't leave my stand area for a whole morning last year. I lost track of the number of doe we saw. And I saw zero bucks
- 17565 Vilas county deer populations are very good in my area. Would like to see antlerless tags available. Wisc. DNR has done the right thing by holding off for 4 years? Limited tags and another review after next season would be appropriate.
- 17566 Still are not seeing the deer up there, one deer last year. I do favor the Junior program for deer. We need to keep the youth interested in hunting , fishing etc. Thanks for you time and concern for the wild life in Wisconsin.
- 17567 I have seen significantly more deer in 2017 than I have from 2013-2016. I feel the management unit is ready for some antlerless harvests. If not, the following years will reflect that and we can then go back to antler only.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17568 Please work to get deer numbers at a level which supports bio diversity. We have lost way too many native plants. Der numbers should be less than 12 per square mile for herd health, forest regeneration and native plants
- 17569 My major concern in vilas county is lack of antlered deer. Far to many spikes and young bucks being killed, I would love to see a 3 point minimum on a single antler go into effect. Buck to doe ratio is outta balance bad
- 17570 I think before you start having doe tags available you need to see how this winter effects the herd it's may 3rd and winters not giving up yet. I've seen the deer starting to look stressed in areas.
- 17571 It is time to harvest antlerless deer to establish a more balanced herd. Baiting and feeding ban should remain in place. All deer farms in the county should be shut down.
- 17572 I would like to see more done to encourage trapping/shooting coyote. Like money credited on a persons go wild account towards buying future wisconsin license or stamps.
- 17573 Deer herd still too low. Crossbow hunting should have greater restrictions/shorter season. Backyard feeding and hunter baiting should be strictly enforced.
- 17574 Deer are over browsing my land. Very little pine, cedar and hemlock regeneration. No understory regeneration. They're even browsing balsam fir.
- 17575 We always hunt the full week of Deer gun season on Public land and only saw does. And in general a lot less Deer in the last three years.
- 17576 I believe that we have a higher number of antlerless deer on private property than compared to antlerless deer on public property
- 17577 I believe the antler less population in our unit has been improving the last two years, but mostly in private land areas.
- 17578 Please allow bow and crossbow hunters to take either sex during the bow season. The kill is not that high to allow this!
- 17579 There are many areas within Vilas County that are very overpopulated with deer and the numbers need to be reduced.
- 17580 Typical hunting days include seeing many antlerless deer and no bucks. Please make more antlerless tags available.
- 17581 I would like consideration given to just allowing a doe harvest for archery equipment in the Vilas Northern Zone
- 17582 Too many predators, bad crusty snow , making it difficult to forage, predators stay on top, long winter
- 17583 No big bucks left, way too many scrawny does, over populated sicklylooking herd compared to 30 years ago
- 17584 Deer numbers seem to be very low except for some areas where landowners are feeding them year round
- 17585 I propose a minimum 3 antler points on one antler for all hunters except junior hunters
- 17586 The deer seam to be concentrated in small areas, not spread out across the entire area.
- 17587 BUCKS ONLY FOR VILAS COUNTY, ESPECIALLY UNIT # 34 !!!
- 17588 Don't shoot does, Stop youth hunts. No special seasons
- 17589 NO ANTLERLESS DEER KILL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 17590 Make more doe tags available
- 17591 No More WOLVES!!
- 18076



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Walworth, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

46 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 31
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 12
I hunt in this unit: 44
General interest in this unit: 10

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 42
Bow: 30
Crossbow: 14
Muzzleloader: 25

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 19.27
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 23
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 6
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 6
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
Somewhat crowded: 5
Very crowded: 0
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 14
Fewer: 10
Same: 13
More: 4
Many More: 5
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	6	11	14	10	2



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	4	10	12	12	6
Bonus Tags - Public land:	1	3	8	16	12	5
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	6	28	11	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	15	26	4
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	27	17	1
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	3	40	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.43
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.48
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.17
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.43
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.62
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.50
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.10
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.07
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.33
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.62
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.29



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Walworth, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17592 I hunt right around 1500 acres of private land that I have some access to. I shoot 1 mature buck a year and that's it. I keep detailed records and hunt most years about 70-80 sits a year. The population in my area the southern part of the county is terrible. I only hunt high percentage days (cold fronts, high pressure, rut days, right wind) and on average I will see a deer on 20-25 of those sits a year. We just do not have a good population around here. Seems like when they give the quota for the area they must drive around the lake and count the deer that way. On my biggest property last fall there was a doe group of 3 and 2-2.5 yo bucks that lived on that 800 acres. I run 33 cameras so I don't miss much. And no I don't over pressure anything we just do not have that many deer it's become sad to see. I've been trying to involve my young kids and wife but it's pretty tough when you can almost guarantee that we won't see a deer in perfect conditions makes kids lose interest quick. And wonder why hunters numbers are dropping. This area has still not recovered from the "kill everything" CWD days. And yet they still are just giving doe tags away. The crossbows are not helping the situation either, now everybody is a hunter that really have no care for the population. And the wounded deer is the issue I found 2 dead deer this spring both with bolts in them. 1 in the but and the other in a shoulder. I watched a guy on neighboring property sight in a crossbow for the first time next to the road and then walk out to hunt. There needs to be changes or kids the future generations of hunters good bye

17593 1st*** Crossbow season needs to go back to what it was!!!! 55 or older or disabled hunters only!!! Such a disrespect to the archery hunters. Archery used to be the only way to enjoy hunting deer naturally and get away from all the crowds that normally ruin gun season. Now EVERYONE goes out with a crossbow and essentially gets to "gun hunt" with a bow. It's awful seeing hunters smoking, drinking, and ground hunting all bow season just because their crossbow gives them such a huge advantage. Makes me think twice about introducing my two young sons to archery in Wisconsin. 2nd*** Can the DNR please allow hunters to use their gun buck tag during the archery season!? I mean...a tag is a tag...does it really matter if I burn my gun buck tag on an archery buck? I am sick of passing up decent 3 or 4 yr old bucks during bow, or even management or "meat" deer, because I'm afraid to be done hunting for the year waisting my chance for the big buck - just to end up not shoot anything for bow...and then have a terrible gun season with fighting huge crowds for gun. Iowa allows landowners to kill 2 bucks with their bow....what an amazing concept there! Lastly, the out of state license prices need to at least double. Why is Iowa sooo good....because it's very hard and expensive to hunt there from out of state...and the deer can grow big without the crazy hunting pressure!

17594 I am totally against a holiday day. Always have been. I believe Walworth county needs to increase its deer population, over maintain. But I'll take the maintain over a decrease. Anyone that feels there needs to kill more deer in Walworth county is not concerned about hunting in the county. The area forester and biologist stated there has been minimal reported deer damage in the county, which leads me too to believe there is still room for an increased deer population in Walworth county. Over the 4 hunting seasons I have seen the deer population where I hunt continue to decrease, to the point where I did not see a deer during hunting hours during the archery season or muzzleloader season. During the gun season I saw 4 deer, but were too far away to shoot. I believe the DNR has lost much of its care for the tradition of hunting. To me it seems like the DNR cares more about KILLING DEER than having hunters enjoying the outdoors in the deer's habitat and being able to harvest a deer. I believe Wisconsin has some of the richest hunting traditions, but I see those traditions eroding, much of it because of the DNR and Legislators meddling with our seasons. Much of what was working in the past were our traditional seasons. It gotten to the point where I have been looking and going out of state for a better hunting experience.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17595 In my personal opinion if we want to have a future for our hunting youth and hunters in general we need to build the deer heard up before we try to maintain it. Sure there are areas in each county that hold more deer but, there are more areas that hold very few deer not, due to predators or disease but, by over harvest by uneducated individuals that are greedy to get a deer. This was prevalent when we had the "earn a buck" system. The system allowed people to take a buck when they shot a doe first. I have heard and seen individuals take numerous does even yearlings which included high numbers of buck and doe fawns just to get a buck tag and now these same individuals complain because the do not see anymore deer in their areas. It is these individuals that need to be educated on conservation.. Just because its available doesn't mean we should abuse it. In the area I hunt it has taken four years to see a doe on the property and finally I am starting to see a family group develop. In short we need to regain control of our deer heard by letting it build up and then maintaining it in the right manor. I could see allowing 1 antlerless tag to be used across the board per individual.
- 17596 After attending the CDAC meeting, I am very disappointed in the process of how deer herd harvests quotas, opportunistic seasons (i.e holiday hunt), and regulations are determined by CDAC board members, who are unqualified to make such determinations . At the meeting I was previewed Walworth County deer herd harvest data that showed Walworth county has an overabundance of deer and unmet harvest quotas. Yet, after hearing the opinions of local hunters who opposed the holiday hunt due to poor hunting success and personal hunting habits, which could be blamed for possibly hundreds of reasons other than low numbered deer herd (poor hunting habits, not frequently hunting, poor stand activity etc etc) the board members voted to not recommend a holiday hunt in a county teaming with deer, where private land owners can manage the herd during the holiday season. In a country where hunters make up less than 5% the population, I don't understanding dismissing a hunt during the winter season where men, women, and children can hunt while taking time off around the holidays and help manage the herd.
- 17597 I hope the CDAC will reconsider having the holiday hunt. I am a proponent of the hunt because it provides me and my family more opportunities to hunt together. Typically my 11 year old son is playing football most of the fall (weekday evening practices, games on Saturdays) which limits the amount of time we can hunt together. The holiday hunt affords us some time to hunt together when he is on holiday break from school and I can take some days of vacation from work. My wife also has some time off of work during this time to join us. The past two seasons we have gone to Waukesha county to hunt but I would much prefer to hunt closer to home. Statistics showed that the holiday hunt had minimal impact on the deer harvest so for me, it is simply about more opportunities to hunt with a firearm with the potential of snow on the ground to see tracks and better scout where the deer are. I would also support extending the archery season until the end of January.
- 17598 How can two individuals sitting on a board as board members make recomondations on topics such as deer tag avaiability and hunting oportuntiy (holiday Hunt) for all 5000 deer hunters in walworth county while offering no biological or scientific information or reasoning upon which to base their descisions. Hunting oportuntiy and quotas/tags should be based on biological data and explanation and nothing else. Walworth county deer population is over-populated, with this comes the opportunity for disease and more deer-auto colisions etc.. Because someone speaks up and states that they didn't see enough deer during the hunting season so don't hold the holiday hunt is ridiculous and wrong. There may be 100+ reasons why the individual did not see any deer, this does not address the status of the deer herd. Please base walworth county deer management on science and nothing else.



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

- 17599 The number of tags issued does not matter, the bonus tags are not being used. More time periods/opportunity is needed to meet stated quotas, we are not coming close to our quotas. Bow hunters kill almost 0 deer during late season. Almost all counties surrounding Walworth are recommending a holiday hunt for 2018 and Walworth has a much higher deer density than the counties which are recommending a holiday hunt. Not only is the holiday hunt a great management tool by which to control the deer herd, it is also an awesome opportunity for family and friends to get together and hunt over the holiday's. Not recommending the holiday hunt in Walworth county is the wrong decision on all levels. If the CDAC of Walworth county cannot make the correct decisions, please return the deer herd management to the trained professionals of the Wisconsin DNR.
- 17600 Possible Night Bow Hunt, for one weekend, since there is more movement of deer at night, but do have the hunt on full or new moon for more light. Just wondering if this was an option, with new technology that's out there. It would promote Wisconsin, BECAUSE WE WOULD BE THE FIRST, since it will be new, and second it would increase sales at sporting good stores and archery licenses. Thank you.
- 17601 Keep the crossbow season the same length as regular archery and run it all through any gun hunting seasons as well. Far less deer are being wounded with the trend going towards many more crossbow hunters in the field today. I live in a small subdivision surrounded by cropland and I am totally amazed at the amount of wounded deer throughout the Winter mostly caused by bow hunters
- 17602 please consider not increasing the number of antlerless tags. We are finally turning a corner after the cwd debacle and I strongly encourage you to let the herd size increase. I spend a ridiculous amount of time in the woods and I assure you our county is far from overpopulated. Thanks for the consideration
- 17603 I strongly suggest NOT having the holiday hunt in Walworth county, the amount of bonus tags that were available was perfect last year. The deer herd from what I've noticed seems to be perfectly in balance as far as buck to doe ratio, as well as the population. Keep up the good work!
- 17604 I really want to see hunters in this county only be allowed to harvest one buck and one doe combined for archery and rifle seasons. I saw only one deer hunting for approximately 10 days of bow hunting and only one deer during rifle season. I was not able to harvest any of them.
- 17605 I support the Holiday hunt antlerless. I've seen the herd in my area grow substantially. Unfortunately, I was unable to harvest a single deer the past 2 seasons and I'd like the opportunity to do so. An extra hunt obviously increase my chances. Thank you, Jim Quinn.
- 17606 Please reinstate holiday hunt, more time periods are needed in order to increase the harvest of antlerless deer, we never come close to reaching our quota, there are way too many deer on the landscape in Walworth county, late season archery hunting is not effective.
- 17607 go back to one deer per tag either sex per bow/crossbow, gun and smoke pole season. sell an extra tag for smoke pole season by making it its own season and there is your lost money for the extra doe tags
- 17608 Crossbows should be limited to the firearm framework and structure. Exceptions for 65 years and older and physically challenged. They can remain in archery season framework and structure.
- 17609 Stop sleeping with the insurance company's and do your job manage our deer if you need help I'm all in call me for support go wild Richard Zupan Make deer hunting fun again PLEASE!
- 17610 My fear is having extended hunting seasons and the negative effects on the snowmobile tourism. We need more public land for multi use trail networks. Thank you.
- 17611 I think the DNR has it right. Warden seems really intelligent.
- 17612 I am NOT in favor of decreasing the crossbow season.
- 17613 Very low deer population in this area
- 18077



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Washburn, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

102 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 46
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 19
I hunt in this unit: 92
General interest in this unit: 19

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 86
Bow: 51
Crossbow: 44
Muzzleloader: 38

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 25.98
Maximum: 59

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 24
Mostly Private Land: 19
Public and Private Land About Equally: 12
Mostly Public Land: 17
Exclusively Public Land: 19
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 3
Not too crowded: 17
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 15
Somewhat crowded: 18
Very crowded: 14
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 17
Fewer: 34
Same: 37
More: 10
Many More: 3
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	6	28	36	28	2



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	3	6	25	35	28	5
Bonus Tags - Public land:	6	8	14	29	42	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	9	89	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	52	40	10

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	3.15
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.50
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.15
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.41
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.33
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.21
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.09
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.15
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.51
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.33
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.37



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Washburn, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17614 I'm actually 40 years old, I put 40 years of hunting because I hunted with my father every year from as long as I can remember. Hunting is a huge tradition and way of the family getting together each year. I'm now teaching my boys about the outdoors and hunting. Lowering the hunting age to get kids evolved isn't the issue, going out and not seeing anything is. I grew up enjoying hunting without being able to hunt until age 12, but if you don't see anything it's hard even at my age to want to go out. I enjoy the outdoors and just being in it, but I'm out there during deer season to see deer and hopefully get one. I'm out in the woods, not only hunting, just out there more than most that consider themselves hunters and outdoors enthusiasts. Last deer season I saw even less deer than other years, there has been a steady decrease in numbers seen for at least the last 8 yrs. I went from seeing on a great day of hunting, 20-30 deer to last year between three of us hunting to 0. Yes, 0. Now I do consider the outbreak of CWD to be a big issue with the decline of hunters numbers, after that year I noted a huge decline in hunters, the older generation due to fears. If we don't have the numbers of deer, your going to loose hunters, especially new hunters. I also consider the amount of predators to be too high, I would go years without seeing a bear, and I don't mean season years. Now I see them continuously on my trail cameras, not to mention during deer rifle season. I see bears every season now. I see sows with 3-4 cubs yearly around where I live and hunt. I see almost as many bears and coyotes as deer when I hunt now. I know funding is down due to the decrease in hunters, and therefore the decrease of licenses being sold. Continuing to sell these numbers of tags is not the solution. Not having to register deer at a registration station also is a lost tradition and a way for hunters to connect and talk. I miss those days standing around talking hunting with other hunters about their day and walking over to look at a big buck that has just come in on the back of a truck. There is also lost sales to these businesses and towns due to this, we always would go in and buy a pop or other snacks at these locations. In my opinion it is a lot easier to take more than your allowed by this method of registration. You have about two wardens per county, they had enough trouble regulating hunters and now they don't even need to register them in town or have the back tailgate down in the truck during transportation of them. In closing as stated above, I'm in the outdoors and in them hunting also more than 99% of people and hunters out there. I truly hope that this is actually read, let alone the opinion taken in to account.

17615 It is obvious to me that the deer herd in Washburn County was over harvested for many years. As a regular gun season only hunter, I believe that this group gets what's left over after all the other stressors/seasons are completed. No single group of harvests can be blamed for the low deer numbers, but collectively, each has contributed to the decline in quality deer hunting in Washburn County; in my opinion, those are: 1. Predators: wolves and bears do kill and eat fawns; 2. Vehicles kill deer all year round; 3. Early season and specialty hunts (e.g., youth hunts, disabled hunts, tribal hunts, veterans hunts, early season antlerless hunts); all kill deer. 4. Archery hunts, especially with the more recent crossbow legalization, kill more deer than ever. THE TRADITIONAL GUN SEASON GETS WHAT'S LEFT OVER. I believe that the DNR should implement a QDM type management system that promotes the growth and harvest of large bucks in forested regions. Baiting should not be allowed under any circumstance and enforced. As the deer herd grows, then limited antlerless harvest may be permitted based on the DNR population models, rather than political or economic wishes. I also think that the Wisconsin Bear regulations are a good example; we shot too many bears, DNR recognized that, they gradually brought the harvest quotas back and as a consequence we now have an excellent bear population and harvest large bears.



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- 17616 last year i seen (1) small spike buck and let it go , opening day i only heard about 8 shots which tells me the deer are still not out there on public land. again last year i bagged no deer, after (4) days of hunting and only seeing the (1) deer i went home . i did not want to see more doe tags last year and the cdac issued more any way. the majority of comments i read last year felt the same as me , last year i mentioned the deer shot during hunting season , deer hit by cars, deer killed by bears wolfs and loss because of weather.here it is april and your still getting snow storms on top of all the snow thats already on the ground ,im sure thats going to have an affect on the deer herd.next month the does are going to start dropping fawns.not a good start for the deer in northern wisconsin. i say cut back on doe tags dont make things any worse than they are now.
- 17617 Honestly there are not many deer in the northern Washburn southern Douglas area. From opening of bow through muzzleloader there is constant hunting pressure and too many does are shot in my opinion. I am in a crew of 30 rifle hunters and we only shoot bucks. It is better than 5 years ago but I would still like to see less antlerless tags and any bonus permits issued. I would like to see a 10-20 percent increase in the overall population in this area and a good way to do this would be to limit Doe permits. Give it a year or two. Honestly this area should not have had a whole hunting season because the numbers were so bad 5 years ago. The years escape me but the statistical low years 3-6 years ago. No feeding deer or private land privileges. Have a cabin in the area and have hunted there since I was young
- 17618 My land is in the northern forest area. I saw NO deer last year!!!! The county needs to be split and no doe tags for the northern part. Many other land owners in the area have had the same results. My son does not plan on bring his kids there to hunt as there are no deer and they would not want to hunt after that.. In addition the bear numbers are out of control and need to be greatly reduced. I saw more bear hit on the road than deer last year. Split this county and every other county that has half agi and half timber. IT'S NOT WORKING Since the DNR made the change I have seen less deer and now no deer!!!! I saw many post like this last year but YOUR no listening!! In my late 60's my time is running out..... note meeting set for opening day of turkey hunting, I can't make it.
- 17619 I know around my area, wolves and bears have kept the deer in check, and with this long winter, I am concerned the deer will not recover. I had seen a lot less deer this past year, compared to 3-4 years prior. I think your quota numbers are way to high. The issue is the southern part of the county has a lot more ag, and a lot more deer, but less public land. The northern part of the county has a lot more public land, but many less deer. When you give out high numbers of tags, we just get thinned out in the northern half of the county, and the southern half with all of the deer, doesnt get effected. Either we need to split the county up, or ship a bunch of the wolves, and bear from the north half, to the southern half, because the northern half of the county cant sustain the pressure.
- 17620 My brother and I have owned a large parcel for a long time now and the drop in deer numbers has been precipitous. He used to see deer all the time dawn, day and especially evening. Now we see very few deer. My nephew has been trying to shoot a nice buck for years and has had no luck. That is the reason we are losing hunters in the northwoods. No one whats to come up and hunt. If you want to shoot deer, you have to have deer around. We have made a substantial investment on our property and poor deer management has directly effected our investment. I think that it should be BUCKS ONLY for a few years to reestablish the herd.
- 17621 Trying to manage the deer population is an admirable but losing proposition. Private landowners go to great lengths to protect "their deer". I hunt public land and I see mostly does harvested which harms future population growth. Over the 17 years that I have hunted the area I am in the deer population has steadily decreased. When I ask people who live in the area about the deer population they blame the appearance of wolves in the area. I am also opposed to the new minimum hunting age that was passed last year. I have a 7 year old grandson and there is no way he is physically or emotionally prepared to carry a gun.



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- 17622 How is it you want to manage the Northern part of the county that is "Forested" like the Southern part of the County that is Agriculture. We are talking about 2 totally different ecosystem and should be management style. Yes the agriculture needs to have some antlerless herd control in places but you can't harvest the same number of deer in the northern part of the heavy forested areas. Best thing to do is take all of the info from the "Deer Doctor" specialist from Texas is box it up and sent it back to him and go back to the Old management system we had in place before the "Doctor Deer" jerk should up.
- 17623 There are many coyotes that are now roaming, as well as wolves. I see their tracks everywhere and hear them - when we have not in years past. Why not have antler minimums?? I see so many folks shooting spike bucks when everyone wants trophies. A 4 point per side minimum would do wonders within 4 years! Also, your new tagging system for call-in registration has opened the door for fraud. You might as well add 1/3 to whatever your registration tallies are. I am from MN and pay for non-resident archery, gun, fishing etc. because of the quality - and pay for it. Let's keep it that way! Thanks!!
- 17624 Obviously, you care very little to what sportsmen and women want. The public meetings held over the last several years confirm this because you have never listened to the majority of opinion. I have spent at least 30 days every year bow hunting the northern part of Washburn County. I was there when the "so called experts" said we had high numbers in 1991 when in fact they later had to apologize for being so wrong. Well, you are wrong again for doling out antlerless tags when there are so few deer in the northern part of this county. I know you won't listen but I write this as therapy.
- 17625 I agree with the antlerless quota numbers proposed for 2018 in Washburn County and if anything, they could increase slightly. My concern is what happens when the quota is not met for consecutive years like it was not met in 2017? By not meeting the quota and no severe winter kill, the herd will continue to increase. What happens when it increases to the point of non-acceptance? Antlerless only season? That should be avoided at all costs. I would support earn a buck over an antlerless only season. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment.
- 17626 I continue to be concerned with the deer population in the Northern Forest zone. I've hunted the same area for over 20 years and the numbers appear to decline every year. I have lost faith in the DNR's ability to manage the deer population. I will hunt the area for nostalgia purposes but not to bring home venison. I hunt in Southern Wisconsin for meat as the deer are more plentiful. I fear the mismanagement of the wolf population may be to blame for decreasing sightings of deer and deer sign in the Northern Forest.
- 17627 I think the committee is doing an outstanding job in a very difficult political climate. I want to see higher deer numbers overall, not just for hunting purposes, but for recreational purposes - people like to see deer. I know there are many factors to balance, but this past winter seemed to be worse than the previous two (more snow and slightly longer cold stretches) and that worries me for two or three years down the road if we take too many does it will take too long to bounce back from the winter.
- 17628 I believe the current deer population is near the correct amount to have a reasonable chance to bag a deer while hunting public land. If the population was higher, this would increase the deer car hits to an unacceptable level. I have not always been a fan of management results in the past, so the fact that I state this means that you've done a pretty decent job of management in recent years. I wouldn't be nearly as kind in filling out a management survey for say Walleye fishing and regulations.
- 17629 I am 68 and have lived in northern Wisconsin all my life. I remember the winters before recreational feeding and the deer gathered in yards. Every spring I would take my family to the areas to see the deer. Clearly these yarded up deer had more intense contact than now when they are disbursed all over the countryside into small groups at local feeders. So, it would see that CWS could spread easier in the yards than when the deer are disbursed.



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- 17630 I am pleased the Washburn Co CDAC continues to include science in their decisions. There are still plenty of deer and though it has been a long winter, the WSI really isn't that high so there should be good survival going into the 2018 hunting season. It was also very smart to offer more public land tags in an effort to reach harvest quotas since private land tags didn't sell out last year and there is demand for more public land tags.
- 17631 Go hunt public land east of Long Lake. No deer. Not fun. We used to hunt there a lot. Had fun too. Not anymore. Need to shoot a lot more bears. Way too many of them around. I hunted 27 out of 30 days in november and didn't see that many deer. I was planning on shooting a doe but didn't have the heart when I didn't see many. We should be increasing the population. I feel like I'm wasting my time with this because you never listen anyway.
- 17632 For 35 years I've hunted in the northern portion of Washburn county, Douglas and Burnett This area is 95% managed forest with extreme loss of food sources due to conversion too Red Pine plantation. Combine loss of food Doe permits offered results in large swings in resident deer numbers. Consider the southern portion of unit 8 has more farmland that it would seem a split unit could be consider to better manage deer population.
- 17633 Although I feel that deer numbers are down, on public land, and antlerless tags should be reduced, if not eliminated, myself and my neighbors have effectively managed the deer herd on our properties to maintain a healthy buck/doe ratio and sustainability. The complaint that I have about your survey is, "Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...", has absolutely nothing to do with responsible herd management.
- 17634 I have owned and hunted a 200+ acre piece of property in this unit for 30 years. I feel very fortunate to have this space to hunt. Deer numbers are just not where they were 10 years ago, it's time the DNR pulls it's heads out of the sand and starts looking out for those who you are suppose to be working for, not the insurance companies! I feel sorry for those who have to hunt public land. Over harvest of antlerless deer!
- 17635 Goal should be to increase deer population in northern Washburn county. At least 8 other counties are split. Northern Washburn is much more like Douglas County and Southern is like Barron County. Split washburn county into northern and southern areas at hwy 70. 7 experience hunters with a combined number of hunting hours greater than 150 and 5 antlerless tags shot 0 deer. Fewest deer seen since early 1990s.
- 17636 Only comment is that the higher the number of anterless tags given out the more buck fawns are harvested which I believe has a significant impact on future buck harvests and can possibly result in an anterless only season which seems like a dog chasing its tail. I also believe that in the deer registration process a lot of hunters wont admit that they shot a buck fawn and put it down as an adult doe.
- 17637 Having the foresters harvesting trees on opening day for clear cutting woods really stunk this last year. I have hunted the same woods for 21 years and they decide to cut trees at 8 am on Saturday? This was a crock of crap! I realize you have to thin the woods, but during deer season on opening weekend? Not happy with that and it being on a county forest! Never saw a deer all weekend.
- 17638 I believe it's too early to recommend how many antlerless permits because of the late winter we are having. With all this snow depth and cold this March, April & May is the toughest time for deer and their unborns and subsequently their mortality. If this antlerless quota has to be set at this time of the year I suggest a low antlerless quota.
- 17639 I would be in support of having a Buck only 9day gun season, with the exception of our youth being able to harvest antlerless deer during that season and allowing antlerless deer to be harvested with a muzzle loading rifle or bow. I just want to be sure the herd continues to thrive for my children now, and grandchildren in the future.
- 17640 Please look into splitting this unit in half. Managing the entire county as one unit is ridiculous. The northern half or forested portion of the county has a very small deer population compared to the agriculture rich southern half. Also giving more doe tags when they all didn't sell last year doesn't seem to make much sense.



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- 17641 I've been out walking in northern Washburn county and this deep snow is having a negative impact on the herd. I've found 3 dead deer the last 2 days and I just started to cover ground. With more snow on the way this weekend, you better reevaluate the quota . It's now getting close to a severe winter in places.
- 17642 I hunted 160 acres of private land, and went many days of seeing no deer, or seeing one or two (the same doe and dawn). I never had a buck on camera (multiple cameras) from mid-August through mid-October, and never saw any from my stands until mid-October. It was one of the worst seasons for quantity of deer.
- 17643 I hope any recommendations do not in anyway put us on a return track of over population of our deer herd! We are NOT out of the woods regarding CWD and should consider that above all else when considering "recommendations " to the state officials, who's Responsibility it is to manage our deer herd.
- 17644 I am not in favor of deer management by county. I would support something like the DMU we had in the past. Washburn county was part of I believe, 6 different units. Deer numbers are still low in the northern part of Washburn County: this current system doesn't address population differences.
- 17645 Would like to see a closer to equal amount of antlerless tags available on private and public land. Quota may be about right if winter does not give up soon. Do not listen to the 'there are no deer' sky is always falling complainers. Manage by science. Thanks for serving on the CDAC.
- 17646 I believe any farmer who plants food sources for deer and other animals such as bear should be required to allow access to there land if they are collecting crop damage money and/or crop damage tags. Instead of being able to use those tags exclusively themselves or family and friends.
- 17647 I believe that preaditory, indroduced species like the grey wolf have decimated the whitetail herd, that our DNR protected, at one time. Over-issuing of antlerless tags and protection of this invasive predator has made insurance companies very rich. Influence inded...
- 17648 The large population of wolves has desimated the deer population in and around the Washburn county forest. I'm seeing almost no deer and fewer hunters because of it. I'm for buck only until the herd sizes are back to historical levels or the wolf population is reduced.
- 17649 I believe the ratio of bucks to does is way off and we need to get that in check before we try to maintain herd numbers... Taking a year off of bucks might upset some hunters, but I think it would be more helpful than most people believe.
- 17650 I think we have to many bear, killing fawns in the spring. I would like to see an increase of bear kill permits. I would also like the federal wolf management to issue kill permits for all the wolves in the area.
- 17651 It's time to give equal antlerless permits to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of deer. For CWD reasons and private landowners using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 17652 It's time to give equal antlerless permits to private and public lands. It's also time to stop baiting and feeding of deer for CWD reasons and private landowners using baiting as a tool to hold deer on their land.
- 17653 The proposed quota looks about right, but appears we have increased the public tags and decreased the private even though most of the deer damage is private. Think a slight modification should be made.
- 17654 Been hunting this unit for 13 years bow and gun, this was the first year are party of 4 did not rifle hunt due to the low number of deer, especially does and fawns..
- 17655 If you are in mind set of shooting Does and fawns, split the county to north and south. anyone that cares can see the difference in population from north to south!
- 17656 Think we should have a regulation on harvesting antler deer, as how many to one side when you can shoot. Like you can only shoot antler deer with 4 on one side



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- 17657 Consider reducing antlerless quota on public lands due to the prolonged winter this year and the impact that will have on 2018 fawn crop survival.
- 17658 Due to the severity of the winter and the snow depth still in April. No doe tags should be given this year except to the youth hunters.
- 17659 need doe permits, especially for private land. Does eating all the browse and also need to allow kids to continue to harvest does.
- 17660 Too Many does on private land. Keep antlerless tags and especially let the kids harvest does.
- 17661 Washburn County should be divided ... northern forest area and southern farmland.
- 17662 reduce antlerless slightly on private land and more significantly on public land
- 17663 Thank you for allotting more public land antlerless tags for 2018.
- 17664 Keep the crossbow season concurrent with the archery season
- 17665 Generally satisfied with the work of Washburn CDAC.
- 17666 What to see more Does and Fawns on a regular basis
- 17667 Favor banning the feeding and baiting of deer.
- 17668 I am very concerned about the wolf population.
- 17669 No Doe tags in the north period..
- 18078



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Washington, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

61 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 40
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
I hunt in this unit: 54
General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 40
Bow: 41
Crossbow: 23
Muzzleloader: 17

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 19.89
Maximum: 48

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 24
Mostly Private Land: 8
Public and Private Land About Equally: 10
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 6
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 7
Not too crowded: 10
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 7
Fewer: 23
Same: 24
More: 6
Many More: 1
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	1	3	28	21	8	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	1	2	35	13	10	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	8	29	10	10	1
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	5	11	32	0	0	13
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	4	13	32	0	0	12

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	0	18	40	3
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	21	30	0	10

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	24	36	1
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	37	22	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	10	47	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.43
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.70
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.33
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.68
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.38
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.28
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.57
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.40
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.30
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.53
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.33



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Comments for Washington, Southern Farmland

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17670 I have asked for this before, but think it was a mistake, to table it for 3 years. The entire county should be in the metro unit, Period,,,,,, Also if that was not going to occur, the metro line should have been redrawn, at least taking into account cutting it off on Hwy A, but not being able to hunt the farms along the Jay Rd, east to 57, makes no sense..... The town of Erin should also be in the metro zone, lots of deer,,,,,, With that said, I agree that the Holiday Hunt should be implemented, and along that line, you could put the whole county into the Jan 31 ending date..... There are a lot of us, that enjoy the January season, and are frustrated on the metro lines, which were drawn along time ago, and are out of date, and could easily have been changed. I hope the Holiday Hunt will go on,,,,,, if your serious about taking out doe deer, this is another tool to use..... Personally I like Earn A Buck, best program I ever saw, but I think I am in the minority. Also I like the CDAC concept, but also believe in wild life science, not political science, and like to hear from our DNR deer management team..... I do not like it that some legislators can write up, and pass what they want, but I have to submit resolutions to the WCC, as the average guy..... I would like to thank the committee on their hard work, it is appreciated at least by someone like myself.

17671 I have 20 acres that borders the kettle moraine forest I can drive 1 from mile almost all year long and see 20 deer pretty regularly on private land. The deer are on public land all summer but when bow hunting starts people tramp around on the public land so bad that all the deer come back on to private. Where the neighbors regularly don't shoot more than bucks. When gun season starts the amount of people on the public land is stupid. I've seen as many as 8 guys try to hunt on an area that's only 80 acres landlocked. I be also seen groups doing drives on opening day where others are hunting. There are all of deer the reason more don't get shot on public ls mainly because most of the deer take refuge of the public. My other recommendation is to limit buck tags to one per hunter per year bow and gun. There are way to many little bucks getting shot rather than does. Why aim for a spike buck over a doe. When I hunt the buck to doe ratio is over 6 to 1. There are alot of guys that are shooting 2 or more bucks per year and nothing else. My last commit is cross bows are are a good thing. Any one that thinks its easy should try before they wine that people are taking gun hunters bucks. Deer are still plenty hard to kill.

17672 I do believe there are a lot more predators down here than we realize. Coyotes are very abundant. I believe that we do have a small pack of three wolves that have moved in also. I have nothing on trail camera to support that. But one night I did hear one howl. Which was awesome! And then heard a another one answer that one back in the opposite direction. And if they stick around that will not be good for deer population. I would love to see an antler restriction implemented. To protect the younger bucks. 3 points to one side. Even if it would be for a season or two state wide. I think it would really help the buck population. For me and my hunting group my daughter included. It is not about the kill! It is about the quality of the animal we hunt for in age and body size. The fact we are blessed to be able to hunt in the outdoors and see all kinds of animals. To me and my family is great. Just would like to see more deer and better deer. When we pass a spike or fork horn and the neighbor shoots it. In my mind it kind of defeats the attitude of conservationist. It is his or her right to shoot what they want. But then they seem to be the people who complain the most. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.



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- 17673 To install a no baiting plan for any county in the state, why on private land can they still plant food plots. In a sense it's still baiting And still has deer concentrated in those food plots especially in the southern half of the state. In most cases of CWD are occurring on deer farms deer ranches or hunting preserves. Not so much on public land in which these counties have a ban. Food plots still have deer concentrated in them especially in the southern half of the state. In most cases of CWD are occurring deer farms deer ranches or hunting preserves. Not so much on public land in which these counties have bans. Therefore if there's no baiting ban in a particular county, possibly to coincide with that a no food plot ban to overall reach the goal in which you are trying to achieve.
- 17674 I saw a lot of small bucks last year. it was disturbing that I saw very few doe. even my trail cam had a 20/1 buck doe ratio. we can't meet the quotas if the doe are not there. I did see a lot of deer in high people population areas. maybe give some metro tags. some how we also need to restrict these game farms more. require them to have double fences and fewer animals per acre. we need to stop hurting the hunters because of these game farms and their cwd. when hunters are able to bait they see more deer. they see more deer we have more of a chance of filling the high quota's.
- 17675 I hope the recommendation listed on the survey are the true recommendation as this committee failed to post their meeting minutes for public viewing. This is a disgrace. Furthermore if its true that the recommendation is 3 tags with each license I no longer have faith in DNR or CDAC. To only wanting to increase the doe harvest by a few hundred but give out 2 more free tags with each license is a joke and these committees wonder why the public input is so low.
- 17676 My comment is on ag tags. I know of farms getting crop damage payments for crop damage from deer and yet when they get ag tags they will not use them or let anyone on there property to hunt deer. I believe that if they want to get payed for the damaged crops they need to allow hunting on there property. The DNR should post the names,locations,and phone numbers of the farms that are recieving these tags on a web page.
- 17677 The public lands in Washington Cty are almost void of deer.. Yes, there a too many deer on certain private lands and unfortunately many of these landowners do not even want any hunting on their land. I really disagree with giving away 3 free tags in Washington.. This will have little impact on private lands but will lead to some additional deer killed on Public lands..
- 17678 I support cutting down the crossbow season.It is like having rife season open for months.I do not support the registration and no back tag rules.More poaching is happening these people are ruining the future of whitetail hunting in our state.Our children will pay the price for what people are doing now.Thank you
- 17679 3 free tags per license seems excessive given the unit goal is to maintain and the harvest has remained essentially constant over the past few years. 2 free tags per license should be more than enough especially with the holiday hunt added.
- 17680 Our Metro Units have plenty of opportunity, and it is what it is, we still don't kill enough or too many. The public units are probably over-hunted and over-harvested. No need to try and increase harvest there.
- 17681 The ridiculous amount of turkeys in this area competes with the deer population. I would like to see more liberal Turkey regulation not because I like to hunt turkey, but because I feel they are overpopulated
- 17682 I disagree with having to choose between either public or private antlerless. It should be just one quote number for the county regardless if the antlerless deer will be taken on public or private land.
- 17683 If you want more doe shot why not issue metro anterless tags
- 17684 Put crossgun with muzzleloader
- 18079



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Waukesha, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

58 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 43
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
I hunt in this unit: 48
General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 30
Bow: 35
Crossbow: 24
Muzzleloader: 22

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 17.74
Maximum: 50

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 16
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 8
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 9
Not too crowded: 13
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 15
Same: 21
More: 11
Many More: 2
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	4	2	25	17	9	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	4	22	21	6	3
Bonus Tags - Public land:	3	9	18	13	11	4
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	6	11	25	1	1	14
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:	6	10	25	2	1	14

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	10	34	12	2
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	18	26	1	13

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	20	35	3
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	42	14	2
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	9	45	4
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.50
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.96
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.41
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.78
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.20
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.06
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.39
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.33
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.44
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.59
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.24



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Waukesha, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17685 Stop forcing the Holiday Hunt on people again. WE DON'T WANT IT!!! There is no need for it. Last year the people were overwhelmingly against it and you still forced it through. You are failing as a CDAC by ignoring public input. As CDAC members you are suppose to utilize public input. PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED COMING TO THE CDAC MEETINGS AND GIVING THEIR INPUT AT ALL(INCLUDING PUBLIC FEEDBACK FORMS AND SURVEYS) BECAUSE IT IS BEING IGNORED!!!! CDAC MEMBERS ARE DEFEATING A BIG REASON OF WHY THE CDACS WERE FORMED!!!! You would definitely kill more antlerless deer during the same nine day period during the Holiday Hunt if you just had the regular archery and crossbow season during that time that allowed people to shoot bucks during this period because if people could hunt bucks they would also kill antlerless deer especially with the free tag that comes with a license. They would kill more than 56 deer because more hunters would be in the woods. Now you are just ticking people off and they won't hunt at all during this Holiday Hunt, I know I don't. Don't you get it hunters don't like to be forced to shoot does only. The Holiday Hunt gun hunting conflicts with other activities during that same period such as small game hunting, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, hiking, trapping, etc. Non deer hunters don't want to always have to wear blaze orange and worry about bullets flying. We already have gun deer and muzzle loader season back to back. You are also issuing way too many antlerless tags especially on the public land, there is no deer there. Public land will never get better if there is essentially unlimited antlerless tags to use here with the free ones issued with a license. The way the deer herd is being managed on public lands is a disgrace and is deer management malpractice. Would you manage turkeys, duck, bear, bobcats, pheasants this way on public land, essentially wiping the population out so you see none of the species you are hunting but you still want us to buy a license to hunt them? The DNR has mismanaged deer on public lands for years, now the CDAC is following in their footsteps. People who hunt public land because it is their only option are continually disappointed because they see no deer. Public land should be buck only to give the herd a chance grow so people can see some deer and stay interested. When the deer population is at a decent level on public land then add some antlerless tags. Try it for a change. I am willing to bet the majority that hunt public land would be for it especially when they see the results. Hunter satisfaction will go up tremendously. You know what they say about doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.

17686 My biggest issue is with the deer harvest per Sq mile of Deer range. Waukesha public has 27 Sq miles and private has 219 Sq miles. Public land is being over harvested, even if you say there should be a high number. Way more harvest per Sq Mile in public than private. Find a way to balance it. Find a way to increase the harvest on the private land, they only harvest what they want to and set their own rules. I hunted some real good private land in Waukesha county a few years, I got out. I can see why you would have a hard time to meet your goals. They do not care, only about their own land harvest. You can shoot this, but don't shoot that type attitude. This was a big farm, and alot of deer, way more than public land, they complained about the deer eating crops, but when it came time to harvest these deer, there were always limits. You do not have that going on in the public lands, where large groups, get together and make drives all day, and shoot up the place. I said to a guy, one day, that was in the drive, now don't shoot up everything, and his answer was, why not. I am thinking it would be a good idea to not allow group hunting in the Waukesha public lands. Send the groups into the private lands. Oh, and I am now 59 years old, I hunted the last 2 years using the crossbow, and did not harvest a deer. I guess I must be the worst hunter, based on all the crap people have been saying about how easy it is to do, and what to shorten the season. I am older now, and like hunting in a bit warmer weather, if at all possible. I hunt alone.



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- 17687 Some of the questions were vague with possible responses not explaining the circumstances completely. Questions such as: If a Holiday Hunt is implemented in Waukesha, Southern Farmland, would you support extending the Archery/Crossbow Season? Extended in what way, how long, for what type of stage of animal or what sex? Every hunter I have spoken with has remarked that deer numbers are down substantially. Almost all conclude that antlerless hunts strategically dismantle a historical activity in Wisconsin, an activity which benefits the entire state, by removing the animal's ability to replenish its numbers by killing female deer during antlerless hunts. This survey ultimately seems like it is being conducted to enable The DNR to develop a defensive response to the growing number of hunters who do not want EAB, antlerless hunts, or any other special seasons such as antlerless Holiday hunts, as if the DNR is looking for excuses for hunts that simply deplete the wild deer population through elimination of female deer so that the deer can no longer remain established.
- 17688 I did witness a lot more dead deer on the side of the road this year which to me is encouraging that the deer population is on the upswing from years past in the Waukesha area. I have lived and hunted in the area for my entire life and every year I am dumbfounded with the increasing laziness of my fellow hunter. I am 100% against the crossbow season running concurrently with the start of the regular archery season. The entire premise of hunting is spending time in the woods with family, friends, and youngsters; not how to spend as little time in the woods as possible and still be successful. In my discussions with other people that hunt this seems to be a common theme, they scout/study their local deer herd for ZERO hours a year and complain when they don't see anything on a four hour hunt. I am in full support of a 100% ban on baiting and delaying an open crossbow season until gun season starts through the end of the year.
- 17689 I've stated this in my last opinion survey submitted to cdac. I spend a lot of time afield -much more than average. And what I most notably observe is a absence of deer in large areas within Waukesha county on vast public tracts. These areas need better micro management- no hunting or bucks only in some of these areas. Rainbow Springs, Vernon marsh are prime examples of very low deer numbers compared to the other public lands I hunt in Waukesha county. There is quite a few other areas I could list as well. Pockets of high deer densities but then not far away- low deer density on other public lands with the same habitat. Its actually a waste of time hunting in some of these large barren areas !
- 17690 Different thoughts I have in short: 1. Bring back deer registration - a Wisconsin tradition of high fives. I hear of too many people not registering their deer, turkey, ducks etc. 2. Nashotah Park hunt - Let's make that better! Let's make it a learn to hunt program one week, then sell so many tags for following weeks - this would benefit all. It will bring new hunters which is dying. It can make money for our parks and DNR. 3. Sharp Shooters - I believe we should have more Learn To Hunt Programs before we have sharp shooters. Hunters number have been decreasing which is a great revenue for the state. Let's increase revenue to our natural resources!
- 17691 I commend the county committee for voting and meeting attendees for lobbying in favor of the holiday hunt and associated extended archery hunt. I have hunted the holiday hunt in Waukesha county the past few years with moderate success. More important to me is the opportunity to hunt with my family, especially my now-11-year-old son during this period of time when he isn't in school or sports and I'm able to take some vacation days from work. I enjoy the possibility of hunting with snow on the ground with minimal hunting competition. I look forward to doing so again in 2018. Thank you!
- 17692 More state & county land needs to be opened to the public, as the minimal currently open are overwhelmed between deer, small game and duck hunters. Waukesha county owns vast tracks of land that is not hunted nor dangerous to residents in the area. The area's they have opened are hunted heavily by both county residents and non residents of the county. Deer populations in both DNR areas and county areas are low, as they have been hit hard and either have moved to adjacent lands that are not hunted or have had their numbers drastically reduced below population goals.



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- 17693 Balance the lack of deer in the country to the over abundance of deer in the city. I can walk 5 miles in kettle moraine forest on a fresh snow and not cut a deer track yet drive to brookfield and see a dozen in one yard. Gathering info and deer population numbers from our public lands would seem to be a better picture of what we are working with. Allowing more controlled bow hunting on county park land or other areas that have an over population could be good for everyone.
- 17694 Under stand to maintain,keep and grow hunting with the younger generation you need to see deer when hunting. I went through this with my son in Waupaca county. From seeing 50 -60 (granted to many) deer on a opening day to 0-1 deer young kids loose interest fast and don't want to go back in the following years. Earn a buck was a mistake in my opinion the holiday doe only is a mistake. Farmers use crop damage from raccoons and blame deer in order to get funds as well.
- 17695 Metro units should be allowed to purchase more tags, buck or doe, to eliminate the use of "sharpshooters" to control the deer population, specifically property owners who have hunt-able land within the city. Competent bow hunters in more heavily populated areas where deep population is an issue would love the chance to take more deer to help meet quotas.
- 17696 Change the tags so you can use your buck gun tag with your bow, so option to kill 2 bucks with a bow Double the out of state license prices to lower the hunting pressure and increase revenue. our non resident fees are too low.
- 17697 The holiday hunt has been very important to my family, this has become a welcomed tradition. PLEASE keep it, it allows me to spend time with my family with low hunting pressure. Thank you (cdac team) for all the work you do.
- 17698 I hope that CWD will be at the forefront of the Council's decisions. This is an issue we need to take seriously and it is best to do what we can now versus regretting NOT having done more in the future looking back.
- 17699 Many of my neighbors enjoy seeing a few more deer in Brookfield. We feel the sharp shooting should stop. The increase in bow hunting can keep the herd in check. We dont need to spend thousands of dollars to do this
- 17700 Deer numbers have appeared to maintain a positive trend in the past three years . I do not support an antlerless only holiday hunt. However giving the opportunity to harvest antlered deer, I would participate.
- 17701 The holiday ends the crossbow hunt for bucks way too early. It should be the same dates as the metro unit. The border lines on the metro are very confusing. All that zig zagging does not make a lot of sense.
- 17702 I disagree with having to choose between either public or private antlerless. It should be just one quote number for the county regardless if the antlerless deer will be taken on public or private land.
- 17703 Open up all properties purchased through the Nelson Knowles stuardship program (such as Monches Park) to archery hunting to provide more public land hunting opportunities in Waukesha county.
- 17704 I would like to see one buck and only one doe tag available for each weapon specific season be available. I also think you should be able to bait in Waukesha county on private land.
- 17705 The Holiday Hunt is always welcomed as a good management tool and additional opportunity to hunt with friends and family--especially kids who are off of school.
- 17706 with all the development that is going on the deer have limited food source.... we need to decrease the numbers
- 17707 Work with townships to promote hunting oportunities as deer numbers is suburban and urban areas are very high
- 17708 I think the number of deer is the area is good. I would suggest continuing with what was done last year
- 17709 Dear DNR, Please allow Waukesha county hunting lands to leave tree stands overnight.
- 17710 I would like to see big bore air rifles being allowed to hunt deer and other game.
- 17711 No one would be happy with a full season with only antlerless tags!



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17712 Have the Muzzleloader season in late december early january

17713 Continue the holiday hunt!

17714 same as it has been

17715 thanks

18080



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Waupaca, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

242 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 103
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 40
I hunt in this unit: 215
General interest in this unit: 26

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 201
Bow: 144
Crossbow: 92
Muzzleloader: 97

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 0
Average: 23.63
Maximum: 58

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 167
Mostly Private Land: 30
Public and Private Land About Equally: 8
Mostly Public Land: 2
Exclusively Public Land: 8
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 13
Not too crowded: 18
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 7
Somewhat crowded: 4
Very crowded: 2
Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 58
Fewer: 79
Same: 74
More: 15
Many More: 8
Unsure: 8

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	12	28	90	64	41	7



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	9	15	78	75	55	10
Bonus Tags - Public land:	8	32	97	44	37	24

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:

Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	14	87	138	3

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:

Not applicable in this DMU

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	96	129	17
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	131	95	15
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	37	200	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

Average Rating

Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.38
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.75
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.31
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.44
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.16
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.31
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.49
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.54
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.85
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.35



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Waupaca, Central Farmland

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17716 If you want to decrease population, consider a way to encourage (NOT force) hunters to shoot a doe rather than a small 1.5 year old buck. I'm NOT a trophy hunter, but feel responsible hunting is harvesting a mature animal (doe or buck). There is a stigma among many (especially those not committed to deer management) that shooting a buck, no matter the size, is more to be proud of than a doe. Shouldn't be that way. People will also be more willing to keep population in check if they are seeing more mature bucks as a part of the deer they see while hunting. Hunters will always think they should be seeing more deer, but if they are seeing a higher percentage of impressive, "get your heart pounding" deer, they will be less likely to be upset about population reduction efforts. Random idea: each \$20 licence purchase gives you 5 credits to "use up" while hunting. You need 10 credits to shoot a buck less than 8 antler points. You need 4 credits to shoot a buck more than 8 antler points. You need one point to shoot a doe. Let credits and license be ambiguous between gun and bow. Allow 3 licenses to be purchased per person. Some of the results in my mind: 1) More mature bucks after first year. Less hunters harvesting juvenile bucks just for the sake of getting a deer. Hopefully they opt to shoot a doe if they "just want to get one." 2) young hunters get opportunity to shoot whatever they want with double license purchase 3) Hunters truly after meat get great opportunity and help reduce herd 4) allowing 3 licences keeps hunters in the woods even if they already shot their buck(s) for the year because there is still a shot at getting the "big one;" but if a doe comes by you have does to get yet too. 5) 3 license concept also combats decreasing overall hunter numbers 6) 3 licence concept makes it less likely guys will be getting deer with wife's tag (personal frustration of mine) 7) licence sales/revenue could increase for more management dollars. Just my two cents on a way to let hunters do their own personal management while still supporting DNR overall goals. Just throwing more tags at me like the current plan isn't going to convince me to shoot a total of 8 deer with my gun and bow licence. That's too many and will just make my future hunting boring. I don't have the time to sit in the woods and get 8 deer anyway.

17717 Instead of a doe only framework... *Set antler restrictions (pos. 12" outside and 4 points one side-try to get some older bucks in the heard) many hunters would see more bucks under this plan. Our prop.(320 acres) was managed in this fashion and the hunting was unbelievable! But the rifles, crossbows and youth hunts have taken their toll. *protect all bucks until they reach this standard *the elimination of nub buck harvest would put more of the hunting press. on the does and doe fawns reducing deer numbers in the future. * Limit youth hunts to 1-3 yrs. not from the age of 3,4,5 to 16. Instead of giving the young people a taste of hunting to get them interested you are showing how easy it is to kill a buck during the rut with a rifle and I have seen kids that have stopped hunting when they have to hunt like everyone else! What have you ever appreciated that was achieved too easily? * I was told by a DNR official that the current system offers something for everyone... The crossbows and rifles have really eliminated the 130"+ bucks in our area as a veteran hunter there is nothing left for people like me. As a young boy I would dream of opening day... Because of the chance to take a big buck! not to go out and shoot 10 does. I was at the doe only season meeting in Waupaca and listened to people saying "Me and my 5 brothers hunt our 20 ac. and we just don't see any deer".... Well is it because there isn't any deer or because of the hunting pressure. Its input and thinking like this that negatively affects the deer management in our state. The state needs to take the wheel instead of letting everyone drive the buss... Most of our fish and game species in this state are managed for trophy potential why not whitetail? This could be one of the greatest states in the nation for deer hunting and all we do is fight over baiting, CWD, how many does to shoot! If no one at the DNR nows how to get us back on track then look to another state that already has a plan like this in place and get some help.



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- 17718 I have been hunting in Waupaca County for 28 years and i feel that people are misleading themselves when they say they are seeing way less deer while hunting. Deer hunting has completely changed over the last 10 to 20 years. Back in the 90's and early 2000's almost all the hunters drove there land and deer were running all over so it was much easier to see 30-50+ deer per day because you were seeing deer that didn't live on the property you hunted because the deer were being chased. Now if you take a drive and look from the road all you see are heated box blinds where people walk in and walk back out not to disturb the deer so that they don't run onto the neighboring property. Hunters are not seeing as many deer because they are only seeing the deer that live on their property. I have a 30 acre combined corn field by my house and just this week i counted 75 deer on it before dark. There are definitely areas in the county with way too many deer. The CDAC does not have the management tools necessary to reduce the herd population. They should bring back earn a buck, go to a one buck only season framework or input an antler restriction. The doe to buck ratio is the part that is way out of whack in the county. I would estimate that most of the county is somewhere between 5-8 does per buck. The best quality hunting we ever had was during the years we had earn a buck. People were selective on the size of the bucks they shot so more bucks were let go which in turn created a older average age for bucks. A one buck only season framework could potentially increase the doe harvest. How many people that shoot two bucks during the season are going to shoot 2 does? Not many that i know because who wants or needs 4 deer in their freezer. An antler restriction could also potentially save some young bucks.
- 17719 If they want hunters to harvest more antlerless deer in Waupaca county, and other counties with high deer populations they should have an early season antlerless only gun or muzzleloader hunt. It could be the weekend after the youth hunt, or maybe 5 days long. This way more hunters would get in the woods with good weather and kill more does. People always talk about the early Oct. Lull when its too hot during the day for deer to move, so they feed at night. Its usually a bad time to bow hunt anyways. More people would buy licenses for those extra days to gun hunt. Many other states already have early season muzzleloader seasons,for bucks and does,but in WI they should only implent this in counties that have excessively high antlerless populations. Don't extend the archery season to the end of Jan.,that would ruin almost a whole month of good coyote hunting weather, with snow on the ground for running hounds. We can't run the dogs if people are sitting in their stands trying to shoot a deer when it is super cold out. Most people wouldn't freeze their butt off to shoot a deer anyway, it's too cold for them, they would just wait til next year.I shot 5 deer this last season,and most people only get 1, I guess people are into trophy hunting instead of meat hunting. I've counted over 130 deer in one large winter group, they stay on the same 200 acre parcel all year round and the 10 people who hunt it only shot 5 deer off it this last year,you can give hunters all the tags that you want but you can't get them to shoot a few does per person. I shoot both bucks and does, a deer is a deer they all taste the same!
- 17720 I know the CDAC is extremely limited with tools to manage the herd, not to mention the earn-a-buck tool was taken away as well. In essence for Waupaca County, the desire is to harvest more deer, but with essentially the same framework as last season (tags available and holiday hunt). This essentially is "do the same thing and expect different results" (and we know how that works). So many things like gun seasons weather is uncontrollable, and a bad weather season will have a very negative impact on harvest, something Waupaca County cannot afford right now from a deer population perspective. (I was planning to participate in the doe only Holiday Hunt, however the bitter cold changed my plans). I would support a buck tag application tool with some landowner preference (like the old doe tag applications) to give managers another tool, instead of the earn-a-buck system that cannot be implemented. I believe the population is high, as seen with excessive deer browse on trees in my woods. However, baiting and feeding change the deer's patterns, and result in seeing less deer during gun hunting hours. Although illegal in Waupaca county, baiting and feeding is still prevalent, and I believe negatively impacts deer movement during hunting hours. I also believe that archery hunters have too much opportunity to harvest deer (several months), vs. gun hunters (14 days with the holiday hunt). I would support creating additional gun hunting opportunities, as it seems that the gun harvest may be the biggest tool for harvest management.



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- 17721 CWD was found in SEVERAL deer shot at Hunt's End Game Farm in Waupaca County. The people operating this farm have done everything possible in order to keep the findings a secret. Their farm was the first reports of CWD in Waupaca which means they IMPORTED CWD into the County. For this reason alone, the DNR and DATCP needs to combine their efforts and protect the local deer population from exposure to this disease. Either the herd needs to be eradicated, or the owners must be forced to provide a double fence. They are still booking hunts into the next year which means they have no reason to care about what could possibly happen due to their greed. To top it off, we saw many less deer in this area this past gun deer season, and certainly less bucks. If the DNR's plan is to turn Waupaca County into the likes of Northern Wisconsin, they are certainly succeeding. Killing does will not control the population. Quality management of the herd is what is needed. We hunt mature bucks only, and kill NO does and we have had fine hunting for decades. However, the DNR's policy of killing more and more deer are now having a distinct effect on our hunting, and frankly, it needs to be adjusted to a more sustainable method of killing only mature, dominant bucks. The CWD threat was real, but none of us ever imagined it would be our own species who delivered it to Waupaca County. This problem and potential nightmare for the County needs to be contained, and NOW please.
- 17722 One item I truly believe the DNR could do is implement a 7-10 break between the end of the gun deer season and the muzzleloader season. In many areas the deer are still nocturnal from the hunting pressure. I would like to see the mid December doe hunt be terminated and move the 10 day muzzleloader Hunt in that timeframe. I am still a strong believer that the extra doe only hunts are extremely foolish. They prevent many hunters from harvesting does during the traditional 9 day gundeer season with the intentions of hunting does later in the season. Many times this never happens because of extremely cold weather and families holiday/ Christmas plans. Many more hunters would be successful if more deer were harvested and/or pressured from neighboring properties during the traditional hunt. In regards to continuing the holiday doe only hunt, I feel adding an additional 20+ days to the archery season in January will not help ease hunter tensions. January is the coldest month of the year and most times is extremely hard to bowhunt. Most cringe at the thought of spending 2 or more hours in this frigid weather. Also during this time period many deer migrate to wintering grounds and do not occupy the areas that they do during the fall. Unless you can legally bait or have agriculture fields on or nearby your property this timeframe is extremely foolish in my opinion.
- 17723 I think the unit has healthy population of deer, I don't feel that it's too high or too low at this point, I'm pleased at the level we are at now. I feel like the pressure in this unit on the population is high overall, while some does are taken they are certainly not the focus for most hunters. I feel like a doe is taken only if a buck of the hunter's choosing cannot be located or if things get slow for buck hunting, probably like this everywhere but would like more focus on hunting does and growing larger antlered bucks. I was all for earn-a-buck, though I do think there was some cheating going on and with the new registration process I think it would not work at all now. While there is much talk about the population being too high in this unit I disagree, I think it's about right now and wouldn't try to decrease the population at this point but rather maintain it. Our family manages and hunts 200+ acres of which almost all of it holds deer in some capacity year round, the property is in the MLF program almost entirely. I don't see excessive over browsing from deer on the forest itself and feel that the county foresters over exaggerate those claims. I feel it a conflict of interest to put a forester on a deer advisory committee of any type. Overall I feel the DNR does a good job managing the deer herd with the tools they are given.



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17724 There are too many wolves in Waupaca county, and they are killing the deer population. People have seen and heard a few different packs of wolves in our area (numbering at least 15 wolves and likely many more), and the deer population has steadily decreased the past 5 years. We just don't see the numbers of deer we used to, nor do we see the quality of bucks anymore. It's becoming harder and harder to see deer enough to be able to shoot any deer and get the venison we need to eat during the next year. We need to be shooting less deer to increase the numbers and quality of deer over the next several years. But, this will only do so much. We need to get the wolf population under control or the deer herds won't be coming back. I don't understand the DNR's opinion to increase the amount of deer tags given to decrease the deer population. Does the DNR hunt? If so, and you feel you are seeing too many deer, then we all want to know where you are hunting and hunt with you. As where we are, we have hundreds of acres to hunt and we're not seeing many deer. I am now getting an out of state tag each year, which is expensive, and I still support only being able to shoot 1 doe and 1 buck per season (bow and gun). More than that is just spreading the deer herds that much thinner.

17725 I agree with a decrease in deer population. I would like to see a 1 buck per season any weapon structure. I don't have a real problem with the 3 antlerless tags but i do with the Holiday hunt. Not giving people a chance to harvest bucks is going to decrease hunters which makes the problem worse. If hunters refuse to fill 3 antlerless tags i don't see them participating in the holiday hunt. A push should be made to reinstate earn a buck. Our politicians dropped the ball and have tied CDAC hands by taking that off the table. I believe what hunters want is a quality hunt. The problem has arisen that deer are around good habitat where in previous years there was so many deer that they used medium habitat and everyone saw deer. Hunters need to be educated on how to improve habitat and manage their land. Thanks for your work and effort in trying to figure this problem out. I have not seen as many deer the last 2 years but that is because of a logging that was completed that has made better habitat than my property. Gives the impression of no deer but i know they are there. Please don't drop numbers to the point that young hunters lose interest. That is the reason I thought the recommendation was a little to high on doe harvest.

17726 My husband and I didn't get any crossbow or gun deer in 2017 and we hunted very hard. Deer were few and far between. We fully oppose an antlerless season for Waupaca county. There weren't any deer to shoot. If u make it antlerless, there will be even less deer next year without those does to breed and have fawns. Lack of tourism from an antlerless season would not only affect gas stations, license sales, taxidermists, grocery stores, bars, restaurants, and hotels but also leases with property owners - hunters would lose interest in hunting their properties because of an antlerless season. Who is going to pay for a lease to shoot only does??? I believe this would be a snowball effect financially and dramatically in Waupaca county that others are not even considering from an antlerless season. The results would be devastating to the county in financial ways you can't even imagine. Those issues could continue for years to come if hunters are not able to harvest antlered deer. Businesses rely on hunting to make it in the backwoods of Waupaca county and without it, many will lose their livelihood.

17727 WE should get rid of all the extra seasons eliminate the youth hunt, t zone hunts, holiday hunts, muzzleloader hunt, the muzzleloader is now a rifle it is no longer a primitive weapon. go back to the the days of the archery hunt and the traditional gun hunt! the youth hunt is a joke on all game, it takes the tradition of the deer hunt completely out of the hunt, kids who have shot there deer in the 80 degree weather of oct. are no longer part of the excitement of opening day. and why are we arguing about crossbows I don't use one and I think if someone wants to use it to harvest a deer let them during the bow season. we should also start the bow season on oct 1st and end it the sun before gun season. give the deer a 5 day break. and have only the 9 day gun hunt which you can harvest with any weapon during those 9 days, all the extra seasons are ridiculous. we can harvest enough deer with these seasons if that's all that's open people will take the time and get out hunting . also eliminate baiting state wide this county by county thing is a joke.



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- 17728 I have been hunting this DMU for almost thirty years. And this year was the first year in about ten that we saw more than one Antlered buck. We saw one 8 point, one 6 pt, 1 fork horns, 2 small spikes, and a couple button bucks, and only 4 does, we saw these Bucks and Does on camera end of August thru end of September and then only at night was the 8 point seen on camera, And the does we saw all the time out hunting, Which we let live, We have food plots and a good water source. Ten years ago it was no problem to see some 10 point and above on camera. Now they are obsolete. Supposedly the land around us is all QDA but I am not sure how it is hunted, We don't take any bucks below an 8 point before or during gun season. Late bow season we will take a 6 point or better. But with the holiday hunts and black powder and extended rifle season we only end up with a week for the second season archery. And I don't believe we should extend the season. All these extra hunts really reduce the time for the archer to hunt.
- 17729 people want to see lots of deer while hunting ! iv been fortunate to have that unlike others. the forestry dept wants to see less deer along with insurance companys. we spend lots of money on land equipment etc. not to see deer. also its hard to keep kids interested if they dont see deer. some of your proposals of having 2 deer per 40 acres or less are crazy noone would hunt. iv been fortunate to hunt private land seeing 20 to 30 deer a night watching bucks run scrape lines bucks breeding does bucks fighting the beauty of watching deer and wildlife. or would you like the side foresters want looking at trees. And yes we shoot does but not 3 with bow and 3 with gun who needs 6 deer and why would you want to decimate your deer herd. go back to 1 with bow and 1 with gun and pay for the ones after that if youn really think you need to shoot more. keep are tradition going in waupaca county its a lost traditon in our northern countys with the lack of deer. kill the wolves kill the wolves !!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 17730 In my opinion I believe having 3 does tags giving for each hunting style is absolutely absurd. I've hunted the same 300 acres of private land along with alot of public land and can say that we have seen a major decrease in deer population over the last 6 years. That is why we choose to only harvest a few deer off this property every year in hopes of keeping our herd stabilized. In addition we have to account for the booming bear population [8 bears in a 1 mile block by us] and a fast growing wolf population that no one seems to think exist in Waupaca county. No matter how many tags you give us it's gonna be our choice to pass deer up in the end. If the idea of a Antlerless only season passes I say we get everyone that buys a tag to call in all of there unused tags. There is as not as many deer in Waupaca county as the dnr thinks. I would personally like to see how the population is estimated (make public). Happy Hunting in 2018! I will be hunting the same way that generations before me have!
- 17731 Crossbows should be for the young and the old not for everyone. If the farmers dont like their crop being eaten and want to be paid for crop damage then maybe they should be made to let anyone who wants to hunt on their land at anytime hunt there no limits. Right now they deny everyone permission to only allow their few family members hunt there when if they r being paid for the damage they should lose their say in who can go hunt the property. Lots of them are also leasing the land to guys(under the table) so they are double dipping hell they are triple dipping, they get their taxes lowered for the crop land, they get paid for crop damage and they get paid by people leasing their land to hunt. Show me a poor farmer and i will show you a liar. And if people dont like their flowers or trees eatin then protect your plants instead of just complaining about the deer. Your property gets its value because of the good deer population if the deer are gone your property value will suffer.
- 17732 We saw less deer this year. 15 years ago, you could probably see deer paths on aerial photos. We can't even find deer paths any more. Waupaca was a mecca for deer hunting and now is an embarrassing shadow of former years. I wouldn't be concerned about tree and plant species impacted by deer because forests are being taken over by invasive species (e.g. thorny bushes with red berries and other thorn trees. I doubt that some of the tree species can even propagate any more. I not only see the property that I hunt, but I drive across the county morning and night on the same roads and have seen a dramatic decrease in deer during dusk and dawn. I no longer need my foot on the brake during the rut because of lack of deer. Please stop shooting all the does for awhile. Get out in the woods once in awhile and see for yourselves. Wake up! Note that I don't believe I'm hunting in farm zone.



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- 17733 The only areas in waupaca that are overpopulated in waupaca are the land owners who have large tracts of land. They are going to manage the herd how they see fit on their personal property; handing out an excessive amount of tags only hurts public hunting grounds and those with smaller tracts of land that feel pressure to kill antlerless deer when there are not that many on their property. I have seen fewer deer in the last 5 years because our property is adjacent to public ground which is overcrowded and there is a "if it's brown it's down." Mentality. Watching people kill the few does and fawns in the area on an opening weekend is becoming sickening. The extra tags need to be directed at land owners based on acreage, not to any person that willing to thro out a few extra dollars to pull the trigger one more time. We are treating our resources like nuciances.
- 17734 I have two concerns at the top of my head. The first being that I haved the same land for gun season all of my life. That's would be 23 years that I have been of age to hunt. I went from seeing 75 deer opening day, some being repeats, to not seeing a deer the last 2 seasons. That would include driving down the road at night ,going back to the cabin. The second being that antlerless tags are not weapon specific. I have personally seen men at fleet farm admit to having their daughters and sons buying liscens for the sole purpose of them being able to shoot more deer for them selves. Both time the children openly said that they didn't want to hunt. I would like to see something being done about that. There is no reason one person should shoot 12 deer for themselves and others not even see 1 deer in the last 2 years.
- 17735 Most of the deer are on private land and farm land that the majority of people don't have access to. The landowner has their buck "picked" out and once harvested, the rest of the deer on the properties feel no pressure, while everyone hunting public land is shooting everything they see. Then they question why they only see small deer or no deer but the quota is set to decrease the population every year. Another problem in my area is all of the public land has been bought up and has very few people hunting on it. Years ago when it was open, there were always people walking around and they got the deer moving during the gun season. Now the deer sit tight and people don't see anything once the shooting starts. Just my 2 cents.... Thank you.
- 17736 Once again this year in the lola area there are far too many deer and a horrible deer ratio; 5:1 or 4:1 does to bucks. If you just want to see a lot of deer, great. Is that what's best for the heard? No. Personally like to see a higher quality of deer as compared to a higher quantity of deer. I would trade seeing 20 does for one nice mature buck any day. By the looks of things, 1.5 year old bucks are doing all the breeding of does, because people are still shooting any buck they see and not taking as many does as they should. Also consider the looming possibility of CWD. Just handing out more tags doesn't make people harvest does. A rule like earn a buck needs to be reinstated to control the population.
- 17737 I live in Waupaca County and drive daily on highways and backroads and have only hit 2 deer in 40 years of driving. So I do not see deer car kills as a need to reduce the herd it is a reason to teach people to drive defensively and under control. I hunt in different areas of Waupaca county and I do not see the need for reducing the herd, in the area where there are extreme overpopulations those land owners do not manage correctly or allow others to hunt or take deer. And in some areas of less populated areas you have other land owners who shoot everything that is brown with a tail. I would like to see Waupaca go to a minimum point for bucks to increase the trophy management throughout the county.
- 17738 This county supports a very large population of whitetail deer. The current size of the deer herd has greatly impacted forest health. Currently the forests of Waupaca county are not regenerating how they have in the past. High quality sites do not regenerate anymore. Carpets of regeneration do not make it above deer browse. It is rare to see any age class of trees under age 15 in woods around here. The excessively high deer population is also fueling widespread invasive shrub control issues. The deer over browse native vegetation and hardly touch the invasives, which in turn selects for the invasive shrubs. Please consider continuing to lower the size of the herd for the health of our forests.



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- 17739 it will keep snowmobile trails closed !!! some land owners will keep land closed even if they don't hunt we use some wooded land just to get to the state trails from our land ! I found out that's what a lot of snowmobilers do !!! when hunters know when they can hunt land owners! don't want you on their land when they might hunt or not! if you let them hunt to January 31 just let them hunt all year long then! I pay to use the trails I want to use them when we can even just to maintain and get them ready for the winter is tuff we get a small time line to get them marked we are out even when the weather is bad we got to get the job done!!! you want your money out of it too.
- 17740 I personally feel like the DNR should make a regulation on how big the bucks have to be. Like for example, "A buck that is to be harvested, must have at least 3 tines on one side or 5 tines l'm total. Or a 2 1/2 year old buck." I feel like Waupaca county residents are shooting too many immature bucks and not letting them get to their full potential. Hopefully we can get a buck to die ratio of 1/3. I feel like that is a reasonable ratio and is fair for everyone and the deer population. Waupavs county could be one of the greatest hunting counties in the world if we work towards it and let the bucks grow. Thank you for taking the time to read this.
- 17741 My observation over the last three years has been substantially less deer in the woods and that is consensus with neighbors. Our group of 30 plus hunters usually harvest around 30-40 deer during gun season. That has been cut in half the last two years. I believe it is due to change in registration and some are just not registering their deer, as they do not understand how or just feel they will not be caught. The changes over the last few years saves the DNR money but takes away accountability for the hunter. Again this is just one persons opinion, I have not looked at any hard data on deer populations, this is only what I have witnessed and heard from the public.
- 17742 Over the last few years we have seen fewer and fewer deer. I understand that there are multiple explanations for this including weather, hunting pressure, hunting techniques, over-browsing, etc. However, In our area the large numbers of deer just aren't there. That is why I support fewer antlerless tags and shorter seasons. We have ample opportunities to harvest deer without adding more days and more seasons. In addition, some of us enjoy turkey hunting in the fall and with the requirement to wear orange during those add-on seasons, it makes turkey season less productive. While that isn't a huge issue for many hunters, it is a concern to consider.
- 17743 allow limited baiting during the hunting season (1 gallon of bait per hunter). I do not believe that baiting in small amounts has any effect on the spread of CWD. the squirrels and bluejays clean up a gallon of corn in a few hours. I do however believe that being able to bait gives hunters a much better chance of harvesting a deer, especially antlerless. extended seasons and special hunts don't do any good if you can't get off of work or the weather is bad on the day you do get a chance to hunt. neighboring counties allow baiting. so should Waupaca where they claim we have the highest deer population and thus need to harvest more deer.
- 17744 To help control anterless deer population residents only should be able to harvest 2 does daily . Good hunters can harvest deer others just buy tags in hope of harvesting need to provide those who can actually harvest with enough tags. Best thing for Waupaca county would be to bring back earn a buck for a year or 2 or antlerless only for an entire year. I am a land owner 450 acres more does need to be harvested. Period . And help get us started on our way to being a trophy state. Anterless only for a year so people can see results. Youth under 16 Retired people over 65 and disabled may harvest a buck only in these years
- 17745 Waupaca County is still home to too many deer. The effects can be seen on our forests. For this county to manage deer responsibly and to turn the tide in getting our local ecosystems back to health, we need to further reduce this deer herd. The proliferation of invasive plant species in our forests are primarily due to so many years of overabundance. We will not fix this problem in 1, 5 or even 10 years. It is going to take a concerted effort over the long haul. As responsible hunters and conservationists, it is our duty to to right by the natural resource, not the vocal opinions of a minority of landowners / hunters.



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- 17746 Hunted the same amount of days in 2017 compared to 2016 and saw 63 less deer in 2017. We had a doe to buck ration of just over 3 does to every buck. We found one dead buck fawn this winter and an older buck as well. This past hunting season was the first time I heard wolves hollowing on a regular basis. Also I think there should be a 14 day doe hunt right after the 9 gun deer season and move the muzzle loader season to December 24th through Jan. 1st. I'm not opposed to extending the bow season in January, but I'm opposed to extending through the entire month. Going through the second week would be alright with me.
- 17747 There are large groups of deer in some areas of the county and very few and almost none in other areas. You need to determine where there is a need to decrease or increase the herd by land owner information and issue bonus tags or none at all accordingly. Tags for public hunting land should also be issued for these areas accordingly using the same data submitted by surrounding LAND OWNER information. Create a data base where land owners can submit info by name with tax bill ID and include town, range, and section. All areas of each county could be micro managed much more accurately over all using this method.
- 17748 I am very opposed to any doe only hunts. I didnt see that many deer on the properties I hunt. Id like to at least see a deer or 2 when im hunting. Plus I would like the opportunity to shoot a buck any time of the year if the opportunity arises. I have a lot of time, energy , blood sweat and money invested into hunting and i really dont want to be told when i can and cant shoot a deer of my choosing. The deer population around the lola scandinavia area is deffinatley decreased to the point where i dont see but 3 deer per sit and thats on multiple properties.
- 17749 I have a large bow group near enough to affect my hunting by leaving a large corn field unpicked until Jan 1st. I would hope that deer damage is not paid on fields not picked after a given date to discourage this baiting practice. The County Ag dept could waive that date for a year with early heavy snows or wet weather that delay a normal harvest. Also, perhaps a control for animals brought into the farms to test the source herd instead of after the animal is here and dies. Stop new infected animals from being brought instate / moved.
- 17750 2017 deer season was my worst season ever. I seen more buck than does. I've been trying to get my boys interested in deer hunting, but I have a hard time getting the interested when you don't see any deer. I shot the first deer I seen with the bow in mid October. I had 20 + hrs of hunting Before seeing a deer. On the other note I hunt in northern waupaca county, where the deer are suppose to be plentiful. I don't see it that way. When I started hunting in the mid 1980's youd would see 40 deer opening day. Now your lucking to see ONE!
- 17751 It is my opinion that extending the deer seasons past mid December is in conflict with the main form of winter recreation; snowmobiling. We have landowners that won't allow the trails crossing their land to open until the deer seasons are over. In a year with early snows, this will negatively impact winter tourism. Snowmobiling brings in way more dollars to the community than late season hunts. I really feel that if a hunter hasn't filled their tags by then they might as well give it up.
- 17752 You need to break up this county into smaller zones to achieve the numbers you want. I have seen it first hand in the area where I hunt (SE corner) Im seeing a below average number of deer and guys hunting 20+ miles away are seeing 30+ a night. Now we have to ask why is this? Knowing deer, food. So I would look into breaking up the county like the snowmobile club does and have 4-6 zones inside of the county and focus on the higher numbers in those zones. Thank you for reading my input
- 17753 Get rid of fenced in deer farms. All they do is create CWD. Shut them all down!!!! I like to bow hunt between Xmas and New Years. I don't know anyone who took advantage of Holiday Hunt. Get rid of Holiday Hunt and let people bow hunt late season. WDNR is loosing hunters because you screw with the seasons and change rules every year. I'm starting to go out west every year and can see myself not hunting whitetails in this state very soon. Keep it up.



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- 17754 Several weeks ago I counted over 100 deer in a picked corn field 1/4 mile from where I hunt (my wife witnessed). Too many generally and have never seen that many before. Hunted here for 37 yrs. Issue is private land and lack of sufficient antlerless deer being shot. Only thing that compels this is earn a buck. That is where you need to go to bring numbers down. I love venison but I cannot do it by myself. Thank you for your efforts.
- 17755 There are still landowners with the mentality that they will not shoot anything but large bucks on their properties. Only shooting big bucks is great, I'm all for QDM. But not shooting any does is a major issue and needs to be addressed, that's not part of a solid management plan. Many are doing or trying to do their part but those that are protecting their doe herds are going to regret it some day if they don't start thinning them out.
- 17757 I appreciate the ability to comment on this situation/process. I feel hunters are not taking enough deer and as such with competition for available space and food along with the potential for disease feel we are setting up for the "perfect storm" to our deer herd. I feel sorry for the hunters that are unable to look at the big picture and only consider what they see/harvest from their stand. There are too many deer.
- 17756 This was the first year in the last five that I saw an adult doe on our property while hunting. Only antlerless ones I've seen weren't even big enough to bother grabbing my weapon. Hunted probably 20 days this year and saw 5 deer total which is more than the last 3 years combined. It's gotten so bad I've started leasing land in Outagamie so I don't have to waste as much gas going out. Definitely don't believe the numbers.
- 17758 Management of Youth hunt so it is not misused. Bow season is probably too long and misused. I know many Bow hunters that use many other tags than their own. Not fair to the honest hunter. Hunting under the age of 10 is just waiting for an accident to happen. Anyone under 8 probably really didn't shoot it. I understand your job is hard and you can't make everyone happy - Thank you for what you are doing and Good Luck.
- 17759 I would like to see the crossbow season remain as it is. There are a lot of hunters in their 50's that are too worn out and sore to shoot a compound bow accurately. After more than 30 years of construction work I am one of those hunters and I only hunt my own land, which I pay the taxes on. If you change the crossbow season you take away my favorite pastime/hobby and I will be forced to quit hunting.
- 17760 First I would like to thank all the members of the council for their time that they volunteer for my benefit. I attended my first CDAC meeting this March and was thankful for the amount of information available to me. The presentation from our county forester was very eye-opening. The fight and information collection on CWD should be first and foremost in our county and state. Thank you all again!
- 17761 All we hear is how many deer there are yet year after year we see less and less of them when hunting. Then we hear "we need to start filling our antlerless tags or we will have an antlerless only season." Between 4 guys in our group we had 12 antlerless tags... we saw maybe 4 does all season. So it looks like we are purposefully not shooting antlerless when we just aren't seeing them.
- 17762 There are some areas in Waupaca County that are overly populated. However, our specific area is not overly populated. I believe the units are too large, to properly manage this and the units should represent better the actual typical area traveled by deer, as some units are overpopulated, while others aren't. Thank you for allowing the opportunity to provide my input.
- 17763 It is becoming a disturbing trend that we do not see any/many deer during our hunt on our land. A group of 8 of us hunted all gun season and saw ONE deer between all of us. If there are more heavily populated areas within Waupaca County we need to consider dividing the zone up to support initiatives in the differing areas. There needs to be more deer in our area!
- 17764 Deer numbers on public and private land in the north east part of the county are far below levels they should be. With increased wolf population hunters need to be provided less tags to supplement this issue. Also ratio of mature deer is far below healthy levels. Very interest in 4 point rule which would increase the health of our deer herd.



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- 17765 I don't know why the DNR thinks there are so many deer out there. I think they sit and count in one area where there is a good abundance of deer and multiply by 1,000 or more and that is the count for that whole area. I sat last year and saw hardly any deer. Maybe we should get rid of the wolves instead of getting rid of the deer?????
- 17766 Extending the archery season will directly impact the revenue the county receives from snowmobiles traveling through the county trails and stopping at establishments for food and lodging. The season is plenty long enough (4 1/2) months to harvest a deer, without further impacting the snowmobile season more than it already does.
- 17767 I do not know how to achieve cultural change in the county but it seems there is still resistance among hunters to shoot does. Yet they would rather shoot a basket rack 1.5 year old buck. I'd personally support earn-a-buck in the county though I realize it is hard to enforce with e-registration and it was unpopular in the past.
- 17768 Consider limiting antlerless permits on public land. Public land don't have the number of deer compared to private. Don't sell hunters both private and public tags. Force a choice one or the other. Issue only one tag per license in Northern part of county on public land. Cut down on the amount of illegal hunting in this area.
- 17769 We should go back to having to register deer in person, it will insure the hunter who is claiming to have killed it could have, people would be more likely to supply a sample to test for CWD, and it would help insure the deer was killed during the appropriate time with the appropriate weapon.
- 17770 Get the legislature to bring back earn a buck. It's the only logical solution to bring down the population. Unless everyone contributes you can't get enough traction. If you earn a buck for next year, it shouldn't cause a situation where you don't have a buck tag for regulars in the county
- 17771 Hunters now try for mature bucks which is good a couple antlerless deer is okay. But the antlerless killing that has been going on is ridiculous I saw 10 deer all season last year and I hunt right in the heart of Waupaca county in Manawa WI. We need to rebuild the herd a little bit.
- 17772 How about a "choose what weapon you want" license? Give hunters option to shoot 2 bucks in archery season or 2 in gun season or stay traditional in the 1 and 1 format. Hunters will take their antlerless when ever its convenient for them. I don't think weapon dictates that as much
- 17773 This unit needs to be broken in two parts. Deer population north of the Hwy 10 area like Iola, Marion, and northern part of the county are high. Using those numbers to evaluate the population for the southern part of the county isn't realistic to the southern part of the county.
- 17774 I have seen more predators (wolves, coyotes, bear, bobcats) than ever before. Deer numbers appear to be down with fewer mature bucks than normal. Hunting pressure is constantly high but the number of predator sightings is most frightening to the future strength of the deer herd.
- 17775 Solid supporter of the crossbow season. As a woman and now as a grandmother with a ten-year old granddaughter who has completed her first crossbow season, I believe we need to make every effort we can to get our young people to enjoy the hunting tradition that we can share!
- 17776 I oppose the holiday hunt and extending the archery season because the chances buck drop antlers early. I have seen too many cases where a deer was harvested and tagged as a doe but was a buck who dropped its antlers in December. It isn't worth the chance of this happening.
- 17777 I just hope you talk to majority of hunters. They are the ones who see the deer. Also why are there safe havens for deer like Hartman's state park. Right by office. Maybe there should be a program set up to take some out and donate 100% of meat to pantry.
- 17778 I am against extending the hunting season. I think the hunting season is more than long enough to harvest a deer!! I am a snowmobiler and are club puts a lot of time and money into are trail system and would really like to use the trails whenever possible



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- 17779 In my opinion there are way too many deer in Waupaca County. In a half mile stretch from my house to the highway it is not uncommon to see two to three dozen deer feeding in fields and yards along the road. It is costly for deer to vehicle accidents.
- 17780 My party would be more than happy to shoot more does. Unfortunately we do not have many opportunities while hunting private or public land in our area. With the small amount of shooting during gun season we are not the only ones not seeing many deer.
- 17781 The amount of deer I've seen in the past far exceeds what I've seen these last few deer seasons. While the quality of deer is good, the numbers the DNR suggest don't support what myself and my hunting party witness including neighboring hunters.
- 17782 I do not like the Antlerless holiday hunt because it cuts in to late season bow hunting. I also would support antler restrictions and 1buck tag with a second available after harvesting a doe. Thank you.
- 17783 I am very concerned about the Chances of a shortened cross bow season. As a land owner, I believe its my right to be able to hunt during the rut. Todays compound bows are just as deadly as a cross bow.
- 17784 Need to allow baiting in order to harvest the deer. The deer retreat to sanctuary areas and low land which make them difficult to draw out. Too much crop land for them to hide during gun season.
- 17785 I know it's not easy pleasing everyone. But thanx for trying and I appreciate you letting us provide input. Keep up the good work - whatever decisions are made, I'm still going hunting.
- 17786 I would like to see baiting reintroduced to help decrease the deer herd. Is it possible to limit it to one gallon and not in the same place two consecutive weeks(opposite sides of stand)?
- 17787 I absolutely believe the crossbow season length should be shortened to reflect the data proven fact that crossbow hunters success rate is significantly better than both bow and archery.
- 17788 Snowmobiling season in this county unit already is very brief, so please, WI DNR, do not shorten it further by increasing deer-hunt season timing that encroaches on snowmobiling season.
- 17789 Deer fences from hunting groups/ clubs are becoming a problem and altering deer movment. This is nature and you shouldn't be able to dtop deer movement and cut people off. Thank you.
- 17790 There needs to be limits on how many hunters can occupy public land at one time. Some of the areas are very crowded making the deer population/successful hunts very hard to maintain.
- 17791 CWD its been in western states and is not an issue. WI. should do the same! To many coyotes& wolves they take almost all fawn in my area! Should be more ways to get rid of predators!
- 17792 the ones that want does only are one concerned about the size of the they want harvest nothing else. let the puplic choose what they want to eat before you loose alot of hunters.
- 17793 I come back to my hometown to hunt the anterless late season on private land. There are plenty of deer, and the DNR should keep up the effort to reduce the populations there.
- 17794 make farmland tags good for all farmland, such a joke to have to buy extra tags to try to find one doe if you have friends who ask you to hunt with them somewhere else
- 17795 I think some form of antler restrictions along with only one antlered tag per hunter with an opportunity for a second antlered buck tag after harvesting a doe.
- 17796 With the deer numbers i seen this past season compared to others i do not believe there should not be alot of anterless tags given out in waupaca county
- 17797 I would like to see more hunting on privet land for us who do not have land to hunt on . Were we hunt thier are lots of privet land that nobody hunts



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- 17798 Require at least a 3 point minimum on one side of a rack in order to shoot a buck. Drastically reduce the crossbow season for capable hunters.
- 17799 Coyote problems. a few wolves could also create problems. Saw a pair of bobcats .did a number on turkeys 2017 hatch. Expected same for 2018.
- 17800 I think Waupaca should bring back baiting. It would help to decrease the number of deer and increase the quality of harvested deer.
- 17801 Antler size restriction or 1 buck total per hunter a year. Need to get this county buck to doe ratio back to health. Its terrible
- 17802 I think we need to go back to having registration stations, too many deer are going unregistered under our current method.
- 17803 Thanks
- 17804 My husband and I believe the deer population is fine where it is and it does not need to be decreased any further.
- 17805 I oppose to hunting deer after November. One suggestion is to have the hunt season start earlier.
- 17806 I personally saw the fewest number of deer in my 46 years of hunting this management area!
- 17807 This is the first year in my life I did not see a deer opening weekend of gun season.
- 17808 Do not restrict crossbow usage at any time during the archery/crossbow season.
- 17809 I saw 1 doe during gun season. I hunted 7 days. What does that tell you
- 17810 I absolutely DO NOT support an antlerless only season for all seasons.
- 17811 Too many Coyotes and Wolves. Need to put bounties on them.
- 17812 The 3 free antlerless is the key component to the harvest.
- 17813 Wolves are over populated and wrecking the fun in hunting.
- 17814 I'd like to see baiting opened back up in waupaca county
- 17815 My god the WDNR needs help. Stop the slaughter of does.
- 17816 require private land owners to harvest more antlerless
- 17817 I do not support a Deer Hunt after December.
- 17818 DON'T CHARGE FOR BONUS ANTLERLESS TAGS.
- 17819 there are hardly any deer in my area
- 17820 Extend the archery/crossbow season!
- 17821 Free antler less tags
- 17822 Point restriction
- 18081



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Waushara, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

239 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 113
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 64
I hunt in this unit: 167
General interest in this unit: 50

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 161
Bow: 97
Crossbow: 70
Muzzleloader: 58

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 22.54
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 116
Mostly Private Land: 21
Public and Private Land About Equally: 16
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 8
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 6
Not too crowded: 17
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
Somewhat crowded: 9
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 68
Fewer: 79
Same: 62
More: 15
Many More: 2
Unsure: 13

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	10	15	89	68	42	14



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	12	85	82	37	20
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	12	90	71	37	28
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	19	123	83	13
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	39	188	11
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...			
EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	79	143	14
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...			
Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	33	180	25
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.51
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.91
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.38
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.47
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.24
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.13
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.39
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.32
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.62
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.97
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.46



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Comments for Waushara, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17823 I oppose the holiday hunt. Please reference my email to Representative Krug, which I have copy/pasted below, from December 2017. Hello Representative Krug, I would like to voice my opinion about the upcoming holiday hunt. I am a resident (not permanent) of Waushara county, one of the counties which will be hosting this hunt. I am a hunter myself but I am opposed to this hunt for a few reasons. First of all, there have already been more deer harvested this year than last year in total, indicating that this hunt may not be necessary. I am not affiliated with the DNR and I understand that they have quite a bit more data on this than I do, but from the data they publish, it seems we have done quite well with our deer harvest this year. Also, this hunt is intruding on the upcoming snowmobile season, which is my main complaint. Snowmobilers spend A LOT of money both on their equipment and in the communities which they ride in. In Waushara county the last few years have been very mild winters with little snow, so our sleds have been sitting in the garage, mostly unused. This hurts not only us but also our local businesses that rely on snowmobilers, especially during one of the busiest weeks of the year for snowmobiling between Christmas and New Years. I know of multiple businesses that have had to shut their doors due to insufficient income. These businesses were mainly supported by snowmobile traffic in the past and this week alone can make or break their year or even decide the fate of their business. I think that this hunt, while it may not be able to be changed for this year, should be re-evaluated for the coming years. My suggestions would be to first, change the scheduling of the hunt to another week. This could easily be a week earlier or later. Second, make this a shotgun or bow season only, not a rifle season, as this could possibly allow for the trails to not be shut down. Lastly, evaluate the harvest after the nine day gun season to determine if it is necessary, which again, evaluating this seasons harvest already, seems as if it may not be this year. Thank you for your time and consideration.

17824 The deer are getting less and less in this area. You have pockets where there are a lot but the overall county is seeing less. By giving 2 tags for antlerless deer for both gun and bow season is utterly stupid. If a person hunts both those seasons which most do there is no reason one person needs 6 deer. The DNR should be only giving out 1 antlerless tag to be used for either bow or gun and if anyone thinks they need more let them buy the extra tag. Killing all the doe means no bucks later. Unfortunately some people have the theory brown is down and don't give a hoot about the deer. Those people are not your true sportsman hunters. If they were they wouldn't shoot everything they see. Also penalizing the able bodied people now that have crossbows is not right. If you didn't want everyone to get a crossbow then you shouldn't changed it. Now that people have spent lots of money on these now you want to penalize them and give them a different season. Bow is just that. Either you shoot compound bow or crossbow. That's bow season. You want all these deer dead so now stop penalizing people for being able to shoot one with more accuracy. Extending hunting season beyond the gun season is not good. I've noticed not many people if any in this county hunt muzzle load or bow hunt after gun season is done. There aren't any deer around anymore at that time after being chased during gun season. So extending hunts in January would be of no benefit. I bought land here a few years ago and am seeing less and less deer our way every year. If you see 5 that is probably it. And it's always the same 5. So when you have 8 plus people around your area that hunt, odds are not good as far a getting a deer.



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- 17825 Hi, I live in the east side of Waushara so the population dynamics are very different then the sand to the west. We had a real good season when I was younger. The t zone would fill the freezer with no pressure to spook that old smarty buck that comes out with 5 minutes left during gun season. I've seen move anxiety develop in the heard because of myself and others with our crossbows, it is a more humane way to harvest with it's better accuracy and power. When the bow hunters propaganda took away our earn a buck we lost our chance at the big bucks during gun season. I really like this anterless only for the year, you guys are going sell a lot of worries and beer to the bar stool biologist that have been thinning out the herd. If you ever get it under control I dream of a lottery system for Buck tags one tag every 4 years per Hunter and a season that runs just as long as bow season and you can harvest with any weapon. Hunting pressure is why we can't kill more deer during the gun season and me and the other crossbow hunters have really pooped the bed on this one. A buck lottery can guarantee a kill for anyone and I think you will see a lot more interest in new and old hunters if they have an improved chance at success.
- 17826 I question the dnr's projection of the number of deer. I am a snowmobiler and it severely limits the amount of time I can ride. Waushara County does not allow the snowmobile trails to be open when there is a gun deer hunt. I believe the adverse effect to the County's economy to be greater then the deer population at this time. All of the snowmobilers have purchased registrations and trail passes which they are not allowed to use for nearly half of the winter. I believe this would be unfair to the rest of us who would like to use the resources of Waushara County. If this extended hunt is approved I fear that the only recourse we will have is to pursue a legal remedy including injunctions or civil suits. I would hope these things would not be necessary. I would hope rational thought could prevail. I would further hope that we can coexist in all use the County's resources. Furthermore all of the hunters that I speak with tell me there are fewer deer. They also feel the dnr's projections is to the number of deer are wildly inaccurate.
- 17827 I snowmobile. I do not hunt. As a rider I must depend on snow conditions for the trails to be open. Two seasons ago there was a holiday hunt in December in Marquette. December was the only time the trails were in condition to open. Due to the hunt they were closed. I was never able to ride the local trails that winter as the snow in December was the only snow received. This season there was a holiday hunt again in Waushara. Unfortunately, there was barely any snow at all. If a holiday hunt is held next season in December thru January there will be no riding again. We usually visit many businesses in the area during our rides. This season we were unable to ride so no visits. I'm sure we weren't the only riders missing from local establishments. Seems like the proposed holiday hunts would hurt those establishments even more next season as it would cover most of the holidays. It's difficult enough when there is no snow. When it snows and we are unable to sled due to other circumstances it becomes very frustrating.
- 17828 For me to have a quality deer hunting opportunity I need to have reasonable confidence that I will have at least a chance of seeing a mature buck (3+ years old) at least once during a season (either archery or gun). I currently do not have this confidence hunting in Wisconsin. I have been on many deer hunts all over the United States with deer densities ranging from <2 deer per sq. mi. up to 60+ deer per sq. mi. The common factor in hunting satisfaction among all of these hunts for me has been the reasonable chance at harvesting a mature deer (3+ years old). I personally don't care all that much how many deer are on the landscape, but I would like to see a better age structure especially of the bucks in Wisconsin. I would support some sort of antler restriction or a system where anyone can shoot a mature doe or doe fawn but buck tags are limited (I realize that is difficult to implement, but education of hunters can go a long way).



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- 17829 To many tags are being issued for deer hunting. One extra tag is great plenty. Hunters don't need to just anything and everything. If too many doe are taken out there won't be many buck left to hunt. Does are what give you the deer. Extending the hunting season till the end of January is not necessary. After the gun season in November hunters don't hunt much anymore. I don't even see people out in this county during muzzle load season. By the end of the gun season you don't see any more deer around for quite some time. We saw fewer deer this year and seems it is getting less. Issuing more tags is going to hurt the hunting in this county. Nobody needs 6 deer (based on 2017 license issue) between bow and gun. The biggest majority of people usually get one deer a season whether it's a doe or buck. And sometimes es they may get two depending on what they see for deer.
- 17830 I am a member of one of the snowmobile clubs in Waushara County. When there is a Holiday hunt we have some land owners (that we depend on for our trails) who want the trails open because they ride snowmobile themselves. At the same time there are some land owners who want them closed because they hunt. This causes real problems for many clubs involved and causes some land owners to threaten to close the trail as some have done in the past. It is hard enough under normal conditions to keep the trails open. At the last county DAC meeting the EARN -a-BUCK was mentioned. Believe me, I will be talking to my Senator and Rep. about this. Thank you for the opportunity to let me express my opinion. Snowmobiling brings a lot of tourism dollars into our economy when The Good Lord and Mother nature give us snow. Lets work together and not make it hard or each other. Again. Thank you.
- 17831 The deer population is down too low, in all the years i have hunted the last 5 years has been terrible, we need to get the population back up in order for the the next generation of hunters to have any interest at all ie. if they dont see any deer to harvest they will be discouraged and quit hunting altogether, that is very bad thing because eventually the herd numbers will be restored to a reasonable number but there wont be anyone left to hunt, then obviously a overpopulation problem,,,,,ease up dont give out so many tags make it how it used to be 1 tag per hunter and your choice doe or buck...nothing additional, i also worry about the registration system used now as it is super easy to cheat the system and get more deer than you are supposed to have. we can do whatever we want for the future generations, lets pass the tradition of hunting along
- 17832 I am a full time farmer for over 5 decades and ag land owner. Years ago I had some crop loss from large deer population, but havnt had much or any in the last number of years. I work and feed livestock 7 days a week year around which includes checking cattle every day during grazing season. Yes we have a number of deer I see daily, but not like I once did. Our deer herd is down quite a bit from what it once was. I am a deer hunter in WI and also in WY. As I am hunting, I see way more deer each day of hunting in WY than I see here in WI. And I hunt more days here than in WY. I sure DO NOT want an antlerless season around here ever again and DO want a limit on numbers antlerless bonus tags issued for around here. I do not mind sharing my crops with deer but do mind feeding thousands of sandhill cranes. We need a season for them!
- 17833 We need to consider a middle ground of antler point restrictions instead of just antlerless only or any buck. More mature bucks will increase hunting interest without the need for allowing overpopulation, which just panders to the interests of those who want to see lots of deer in the 8 hours per year they spend in the woods. We should limit cross bows to elderly, disabled, and for use during gun season only for all others. Second, we need to take action to limit CWD. We should ban open silage piles and require them to be fenced. We should ban baiting and feeding. We should provide ample testing locations within the County. We ought to return to back tags and registrations stations to help control trespassing and poaching, but it would also get people with their deer to central locations to facilitate more testing.



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- 17834 I do not know how you can keep shooting this many deer. You do not have the populations to do it. If you go back in your records we are shooting the same number of deer we did over 20 years ago. It should be your goal to increase the herd for better success and have better age classes. I would love to see how balanced the age of the herd is. The herd drops and people can only shoot yearling bucks and does does not make for a very good hunt. This kind of management is only good for private land not public land at all. You are making it harder for young kids to hunt and keep their interest up this way. Put enough deer out there so people can pick and choose not to shoot the first brown thing out there. We do not need anti gunners out their. We have the people in charge already. Soon no one will want to hunt.
- 17835 Hi: As a property owner & snowmobiler I strongly oppose any Holiday Hunt especially extending any season into January. Snowmobiling is weather dependent. Even if there is snow Waushara can't open in December anymore. January & February are about the only realistic months you could snowmobile in central Wisconsin. The season is short at best. It seems you can deer hunt in one form or another 3 month or more already. I hardly see deer that much in the Coloma area. As far as an economical impact, ask any gas station, restaurant, Bar or Hotel owner who brings more money into the community. Hunting Tourism is minimal at best & out of state hunters almost don't even exist anymore. The DNR takes our registration money no problem but now wants to make short season even shorter. That's just not right.
- 17836 As a business owner in Waushara County: Businesses in our county have been hurt by the lack of snow. When there is snow and the trails are open, the increased traffic from snowmobiling keeps our small businesses alive. Our businesses saw NO increase during the 2017 holiday hunt. Very few people hunt in the cold weather! If there is snow in January, businesses in the area will be "booming" if snowmobiling is allowed -- or the snowmobilers will go up north and skip us if there is a holiday hunt. As a snowmobiler: we register our snowmobiles and we pay for a trail pass each year. We donate time and money to the club. If the season is cut to only 2 months, we would consider selling our snowmobiles and going south for the winter. Wisconsin, obviously isn't looking for our money.
- 17837 Very opposed to antlerless only season. I believe it will work against deer management because several hunters will stop hunting and not only will the quotas not get met license sales will severely decline. I believe the loss of hunters over the past 15 years in my area previously unit 65B is a direct result of year after year of bonus tags and the notorious earn a buck that was only supposed to be held 1 year and turned into 5 consecutive years. Instead of putting so much focus into getting youth out hunting to get license sales up there should be more focus on retaining the hunters we already have. Once a hunter takes a year off because they aren't seeing deer or are frustrated with the rules the odds of that hunter missing it enough to return are slim.
- 17838 I feel that the deer population flows in pockets, much like Waupaca Co. We have a property within a few miles that had herd tags for their tree farm and harvested 17 does. That takes out a potential of 51 possible deer in one season. It's ridiculous how out-of-control regulations are. That is much more damning to a deer herd then people that pass on does. We have also seen an increase of predators in the area, with wolf sightings becoming more and more common. The black bear population is also starting to get out of hand, with black bears being an animal you see on a regular basis as they have no predators outside of humans. Thank you for providing a survey. I hope you take in consideration, local property owners opinions.
- 17839 DMU's are way too big. After the season the deer population is a patchwork of overpopulated areas and deerless areas with overall deer population above the management goal. The DNR could have handed me 50 antlerless tags and it would not have helped, my area was shot out. Management success is linear. The closer the management unit gets to a deer's home range i.e. 1 square mile for does, and 5 for bucks, the better the management will be. However this is completely unrealistic from an administrative point of view. I would recommend a cooperative effort, between the stakeholders, i.e. land owners, and the state, in smaller units. Breaking 65B into even 4 smaller units, would be a step in the right direction.



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- 17840 I am a Hunter and also a Snowmobiler. I do not support holiday hunts or extending the bow hunting season. Also without a holiday hunt, bow season should be 9/15-12/31. Many people enjoy Cross Country skiing, snow showing, and snowmobiling as winter activities. Extending seasons has already affected those activities. Holiday hunts and bow hunting seem to have less effect on local economy. Other recreational activities in this county like skiing and snowmobiling seem to bring more tourist into the area. Extending bow season may effect landowners who allow trails on their land for snowmobiling. If we start losing snowmobile trails, it will definitely effect local economy. Thank you for your time.
- 17841 I have hunted over 42 years, I understand we have to keep control of our deer population. when you hunt 7 days from sun up to sun down see 4 deer the whole season, you hunt in a fantastic area, something is diffinitely wrong. we as the hunter/land owners are taking away to much deer habitat, this also goes to DNR public lands. where do this deer go ? they have to cross roads to get to food, they get hit by cars causing insurance companies to complain to our natural resource board. we need to stop shooting so many antlerless deer, learn how to harvest mature dry does, stop shooting fawns. our sportsman need to stick together and stop all these xtra seasons. 9 day gun season is enough.
- 17842 The Extended Season Deer Hunting Season does not allow the Snowmobile trails to open on time. Recent weather trends have already reduced the Snowmobile riding season. Some years January provides the only good Snowmobiling conditions for the year. If we lose January, we could lose the Season. We lose Snowmobiling interest, we lose the Snowmobile Clubs, we then lose the Trail maintenance and then we lose the Trails. I am a avid Deer Hunter. I believe the extended season actually causes less Deer to be harvested. I believe a lot of Hunters do not bag the Doe during the regular Season with the expectation of bagging it later and then they don't. It's happened to me.
- 17843 The main reason I am contributing public comment is related to the Holiday Hunt and the impact on other outdoor recreations such as snowmobile. While mother nature did not grant us a snowy season this year, I still oppose this hunt as it negatively impacts others who enjoy the Wisconsin great outdoors. There are other opportunities to deer hunt, snowmobiling can only occur during winter months with the right conditions. Furthermore, snowmobiling positively impacts the local economies through fuel and food purchases, trail passes/registrations, purchase of new machines, etc. I strongly oppose the Holiday Hunt.
- 17844 I feel going back to the old Party Permit for a few years would help bring deer populations back on Public lands. 1 doe tag between 4 hunters With all of the permits given out the last 20 years, the deer populations on Public and adjoining private lands have been wipped out. Along with spring fawn deaths from bear and coyote the population is not recovering. 100+ Hours each for 5 hunters on multiple lands and 0 deer seen between both gun and bow. Not Good! I know of other hunters with same result. Then there are certain large private lands where no does are ever shot and have large deer populations.
- 17845 I am an avid snowmobilier in Waushara and Marquette County. I have land in both counties that I allow snowmobile trails to pass through. (Coloma Pathfinders and Westfield WI club). We have enough days to achieve harvest goals without extending the season which will severely decrease snowmobiling activity in these two counties. In closing, I allow hunting on my private land if hunters ask for permission. If you close the trails by implementing another Holiday hunt I will close my land to all outside hunters. Wayne Haglund. 414-507-9096
- 17846 I OPPOSE a Holiday Hunt in Waushara county. We have ample time to harvest a deer with the current season structure we already have without having a Holiday Hunt. The deer have been hunted long enough by then and need that end of December time to be undisturbed to help them make it through the winter. Also, if we have a Holiday Hunt the snowmobile trails are closed. With the short snowmobiling season we already have, we do not did to loose another week should we have a good snow season. NO HOLIDAY HUNT IN WAUSHARA COUNTY! Thank you.



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- 17847 Too many years shooting antlerless has decreased number of bucks. 30 years ago I would easily see 10-20 deer in a field now I'm lucky to see 2 this year for bow hunting I saw 4 does 1 spike buck and a small 6 prnter you guys are complaining hunters numbers going down wonder why nobody wants to go out and and see nothing I'm 64 hunted since I was 12 1st year that I'm not going to gun hunt doesn't pay anymore I feel sorry for new hunters coming in . A billion dollar business in Wisconsin and you guys destroyed it
- 17848 The deer numbers in the West Bloomfield area are significantly lower over the past 10 years or so then they had been in late 90s/early 2000s. The coyote numbers are increasing and out of control in my opinion. In my opinion there are way too many does being taken as well. Buck numbers are way down in the past few years as well. I think we should go to a model of 1 deer per license (buck or doe not both). My kids will no longer hunt because there are so few deer. That is not good for the future.
- 17849 I propose ending the extended Deer Hunts altogether. Very few participate resulting in little to no impact as the number of additional kills reflect. Waushara County Snowmobiling has already sacrificed with the present extended Hunts, Please don't kill it altogether. Some years January is the only month the trails are good and or even open. Maybe Snowmobilers should boycott killing Doe. How would the Insurance Industry like that? I'm a Snowmobile Club member, very connected.
- 17850 The only true and proven way to reduce the deer herd has been through Earn-A-Buck. Until the state legislature has the guts to reinstate this program, the deer herd will continue to be out of control! The Holiday Hunt IS NOT the way to manage the herd. It hasn't proven an effective and efficient tool and has hurt winter recreation in terms of snowmobiling, cross country skiing and snowshoeing, and has hurt local businesses that rely on income from these winter activities.
- 17851 I feel it would be beneficial if coyote license was added to the Sports or Patron combo licenses. This would allow more control at the local level for the amount of deer. The whole county is vastly different. In the area where we hunt, we have seen a reduction in the amount of deer and turkey, but an increase in coyotes. While the county as a whole may be in the reduction mode, our specific area could use MORE deer. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment!
- 17852 This form was a little confusing. I don't agree with the decreasing deer number recommendation. A maintain would be a more reasonable recommendation. The deer heard never bounced back from the winter kill from several years ago when we found 5 deer carcasses on a 40 acre parcel. I have not walked through the property yet to determine if there was any deer kill from last year but I don't expect any. We need to build up the herd a little.
- 17853 We want younger hunters to enjoy hunting as much as we did but the number of deer are not there. How do 10 to 12 year olds get excited when they don't see any deer? What's worse is cross bows are just like guns these days. Accurate at 100 yds. The season in which to use them is way too long! Create a separate season for them and get rid of all these extra special hunt seasons. The deer population is suffering already.
- 17854 Strongly believe the number of deer herd is overestimated. Stop handing out doe tags like candy. The reason doe quota is not met is there is not the number of deer as estimated. Own over 140-acres in prime deer habitat and many shoot anything they see stating if I have a tag I will fill it. This does not promote hunting just shooting. Don't even think about earn a buck that was and is the worst conservation idea.
- 17855 Looks like about 80percent of public land was clear cut and left all trimming making it in possible to walk through to me that land is unhuntable, even if trees grow back 15 years down the road you will not be able to walk through it. The only public land that has not clear cut is swamp because cutters could not get there, or that would be cut to. You pushed all public land hunters into 20 percent of woods left.



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- 17856 I strongly oppose a holiday hunt. It impacts the snowmobilers and reduces the income of many local businesses who rely on the riders during the winter months. The hunters need to enjoy the regularly scheduled bow and gun hunting periods. They have multiple changes to hunt in our area. Snowmobilers only have a small window to enjoy the beautiful trails in our area. Please NO HOLIDAY HUNT!
- 17857 Deer population has declined on my 80 acres to the point that I have quit hunting, includes my sons. I have a snowmobile trail running thru my property for more than 20 years. Prime snowmobiling is Christmas thru February and it provides to our tourism economy also. If you can't shoot your deer between October 1 and December 15 maybe a person should join a co-op raising Beef cattle.
- 17858 We need to think about the outdoor winter tourism dollars that we have lost over the past few years due to the lack of snow in our area. It is not right that families that gather in our area over the holidays cannot enjoy our beautiful snowmobile trails and bring much needed income to our local businesses! The businesses rely on the tourism funds from snowmobilers!! NO HOLIDAY HUNT
- 17859 In addition to hunting I'm actively involved in oak savanna and prairie restoration. I see staggering amounts of deer browse damage to young oak trees. The damage is so rampant that it is difficult to even find sprouting white, bur or red oak. When I observe deer congregated in large numbers I ponder the inevitable spread of CWD and how it will affect the future of deer hunting.
- 17860 I think the whole idea of a holiday hunt should be abolished. We have a lot of money invested in snowmobiling and would like to be on the trails. I think the hunting season is long enough and it our time to ride. Many families have that time off for the holidays and all the businesses in the area benefit from all the snowmobilers that use our beautiful trail system.
- 17861 Strongly oppose the holiday hunt the snowmobile season is short and not being able ride during the holidays when I'm off of work is very upsetting I think there are plenty of other opportunities to hunt and not st a time where families are together and would like to use their expensive machines where they have property. Thanks for letting me voice my opinion
- 17862 Instead of making more seasons why not open private land to hunt 24 hrs a day during the season ,with your weapon of choice. To many deer are nocturnal & you allow hunters to hunt varmits at night why not deer? There are too many trophy hunters out there who's only objective is to shoot big bucks. Otherwise offer extra buck tags for shooting 2 or. 3 doe's.
- 17863 I oppose the holiday hunt. I would like to see the snowmobile trails open during that time. A lot of time goes into setting up and maintenance of the trails which are beautiful in Waushara county. Many people enjoy riding during their time off from school and work. I am not a hunter, but something needs to change where everybody can use the great outdoors.
- 17864 please keep the same seasons for bow and crossbow. i am 72 years old can no longer shoot a bow like i used to and don't belong in the woods.but with a cross bow i can be in the woods and enjoy the outdoors and don't have to worry about hitting a deer and not finding the deer. thanks. enjoy the hunt like when i was younger.
- 17865 No to holiday hunt! How many months dose it take to kill deer? I am a land owner, hunter, and snowmobiles. The deer hunting season has become way to long. A good snowmobile season is more advantageous to local economies than an unwanted hunt. There are other sports that should have the opportunity to use our resources than deer hunting.
- 17866 no holiday hunt! season is way to long all ready! If you cant kill a deer in the 4 months of the all ready to long season your not trying.Lets give other outdoor activities the same chance to enjoy the winter sports. The positive impact of snowmobiling on the local economy far out ways that of the ineffective holiday hunt.



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- 17867 I find the information used to determine having a separate crossbow only season, to be wholly inadequate. I would like to see the crossbow buck kill success broken down to % for archery season, gun season, and muzzleloader season. Showing just overall success is skewing the information to achieve a desired result.
- 17868 Living away from town, in the country, I don't see an abundance of deer. Especially not enough to hold another "holiday hunt" that hunt interferes with snowmobile season in the county. Our riding season is short enough the way it is. The clubs should be able to open trails anytime after December 1 given conditions
- 17869 Please do not extend the hunting season. As an avid snowmobiler, Waushara County has not been able to open or keep open the trails in the later months, but may have been able to open them earlier if the hunting season wasn't extended. More money is made by the local business through snowmobiling than hunting.
- 17870 This is the first year in the 20 plus years living here that my 2 sons and I have not seen a deer during the gun season. My 2 sons are trying to get their children into hunting. It has been a tradition. This is hard to do when we have seen such a decline in the deer population in the last several years.
- 17871 I can say in waushara county where I hunt there is a wolf problem the tracks are very big and I've seen a couple and they are very large. What can we do to protect the deer from the wolf predators, that's my biggest concern. The wolves clearly are moving deer out in my zone. Thank you for your time.
- 17872 As an avid outdoor enthusiast and snowmobiler, I feel that a holiday hunt has a very negative impact on tourism and business revenue in the area. The hunters have their time which has been extended in past years. Holiday time is for families to enjoy outdoor winter activities especially snowmobiling.
- 17873 I oppose having a holiday hunt for the reason that it negatively impacts outdoor sports such as snowmobiling in Waushara and Marquette Counties and greatly lowers the revenue taken in by local businesses. Would support an extended gun season during the wee after the normal 9 day gun season only.
- 17874 Do something about the wolve population. I live in western Waushara county and have wolves coming through my yard. they killed and ate 2 deer 50 yards from my pole barn, have them sitting on my mound system. I shouldn't have to carry a gun when my dogs are on my property and in my yard.
- 17875 Other states protect numbers of deer with higher non resident license fees. Also, increased revenue for managing deer. Quality of hunting deer in other states far exceed Wis. We need to stop selling licenses to non residents so cheap. Also stop handing out doe tags like candy.
- 17876 I am a business owner in Waushara County and I am very opposed to the holiday hunt. If the snowmobile trails are open during this time, we get a lot of revenue from family's vacationing and riding here. There is enough time for deer hunting and this week is not needed.
- 17877 I am not in favor of a holiday hunt in Waushara County due in fact it has a greater impact on winter recreation and the economic impact of businesses during the holiday season. If we need to reduce the herd then extend rifle season thru mid December for rifles.
- 17878 As in most counties, certain private land holds more deer than normal. There is not an over abundance of deer in our area. Somehow it would be nice if the deer population was controlled evenly. Hard to do but it certainly could be better than it is now
- 17879 I see a lot fewer deer than I did in the 1990's, but native plant life (particularly pine and oak seedlings) is around. I attribute this to less overbrowsing so I accept the trade off. In the 1990's all that was left growing were those prickly ash.
- 17880 Keep crossbow season ran with archery season! If you shorten it you will lose hunters and lose revenue. Crossbow hunting is just as challenging as bow hunting. It creates more hunting experience with youth hunters that can't yet pull back a bow.



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- 17881 Extending length of hunts correspondingly will reduce the number of available snowmobile days. Unfortunately our Trails never opened up this past season. Please do not extend Any hunts beyond December 31st. Thank you for your consideration
- 17882 The deer herd is down in waushara county. We need to see the herd back up in numbers so when you go hunting you actually see deer. It's harder and harder every year to buy a license when the population is getting wiped out.
- 17883 The wolves are now controlling the herd as they did when the packs were north, that is the problem. I see more wolves than deer. I think that is the game plan between DNR and the insurance industry (lobbyist for you)
- 17884 Not near as many deer as there used to be. The majority of the population are on certain properties not really accessible to most people. Maybe make quotas on certain properties not the entire county
- 17885 No Holiday Hunt! There are plenty of opportunities to harvest deer during the other season framework. If certain areas are experiencing crop or forest damage, issue those folks additional ag tags.
- 17886 The holiday hunt interferes with the opportunity for those whose wish to ski or snowmobile from doing this during the week between the holidays. Consider extending the current hunting season.
- 17887 Very much against a holiday hunt, feel that it is detrimental to the snowmobilers and the restaurants/bars and other businesses that need the revenue to survive the winter months.
- 17888 The extended deer season would run until the snowmobile season affecting local tourism and restaurants. Sportsmen need to share the outdoors and leave the winter to winter sports
- 17889 I moved here 4 years ago and each year the deer sighting became less and less. I live near a great amount of public and each year hunters decreased. Last year 3 cars all season.
- 17890 Thank you for NOT having a holiday hunt in 2018. Other winter recreation users deserve a chance to enjoy their sports. Hunters have many opportunities beginning in the fall.
- 17891 I oppose the holiday hunt as it limits our ability to snowmobile if we have snow and affects local businesses which benefit from snowmobile activities in our area. Thank you
- 17892 Thank you for not having a holiday hunt this year. The week between Christmas and New Years is important for other recreation such as snowmobiling and xc skiing.
- 17893 I still did not see that many Deer during the hunting season. I do not support decreasing heard. Good thing baiting came back, I would never had got a deer!!
- 17894 PLEASE don't have a holiday hunt If you think you need to have an extra hunt MOVE IT UP so it isn't during snowmobile season and ruin tourism Thanks
- 17895 I don't feel a holiday hunt is needed. As an avid snowmobiler it takes away a lot of the short-short season that we already get in central Wisconsin
- 17896 We need an antler point restriction. The deer are not growing to sizes they could be. To many hunters get desperate and shoot anything they find.
- 17897 I would like to see the 4 day October T Zone hunt come back. It was a great time to get out hunting in nice weather to help fill the freezer.
- 17898 The holiday hunt is a terrible idea and should be never be implemented ever again. I and any of my hunting friends hate it and want it gone.
- 17899 Wide spread wolf population in Waushara county. I have personally seen 4 wolves while others in my extended family have seen many more.
- 17900 If I can't shoot a buck with bow and gun I will not purchase a hunting license. The whole deer tradition would be ruined for sure.



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- 17901 You guys have been consistently hurting deer hunting for year. less doe tags and no holiday hunt
- 17902 I would like to see an effort to bring back earn a buck to use as a tool to create and maintain a healthy buck to doe ratio.
- 17903 I feel the quota is right. I saw less deer than the previous year. But was able to harvest 2 antlerless deer during 2017
- 17904 this survey lacks information on doe buck ratio that would help determine doe tags. if earn a buck is needed im for it.
- 17905 There needs to be other options other than Holiday Hunt or antlerless only. Extend the season one week for all weapons.
- 17906 Please return to the laws of the 60,s 11 day hunt with party permit for antlerless deer.No other special hunts!!!
- 17907 I think the population can be reduced by the current doe permit approach. Our group shot three deer, all does.
- 17908 Warden do a Great Job preserving the Great outdoors for Next Generation not so much the Governor office
- 17909 One tag per Hunter per season. Shoot a doe that's what you get. Shoot a buck get a buck. No bonus tags
- 17910 Please consider banning deer game farms to keep CWD from spreading.
- 17911 Should have separate crossbow season that does not include the rut.
- 17912 Crossbow season must be limited for general population
- 17913 dont like all these special hunts, ruins my hunting
- 17914 No holiday hunt! There is enough hunting already.
- 17915 Extend archery season, shorten crossbow season.
- 17916 We hardly see any deer during gun season.
- 17917 Move holiday hunt to end by 12/20.
- 17918 We are shooting way to many does.
- 17919 Please consider earn a buck
- 17920 I oppose the Holiday Hunt
- 17921 I oppose the deer hunt.
- 18082



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Winnebago, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

44 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 30
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
I hunt in this unit: 37
General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 29
Bow: 24
Crossbow: 19
Muzzleloader: 21

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 21.54
Maximum: 52

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 19
Mostly Private Land: 7
Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
Mostly Public Land: 4
Exclusively Public Land: 4
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 4
Not too crowded: 7
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
Somewhat crowded: 2
Very crowded: 1
Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 13
Fewer: 16
Same: 11
More: 3
Many More: 0
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	0	4	24	9	7	0



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Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	0	0	16	16	11	1
Bonus Tags - Public land:	0	1	14	18	11	0
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	4	32	8	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	8	31	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	18	22	4
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	1	41	2
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
		Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.18
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.84
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.16
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.39
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.00
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.11
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.16
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.09
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.05
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.36
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.30



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Winnebago, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17922 If you want to see does shot, obviously those antlerless tags are not finding the correct tag holders, with that said not all areas in winnebago county hold deer, I have plenty, however there is a serious problem with the general age structure of antlered deer..... with that said they seem to get shot as soon as they have the hair off their pedicals. And for the holiday hunt, let's be serious for a minute, you made it till the end of December and you never had an opportunity to shoot a doe? If you seriously think that happens you are mistaken. It's a choice, they didn't want to screw up their chances at that spike buck so they passed the doe. That's what I have seen over the years and I have been guilty of that exact thing myself..... (although it was not a 1.5 year old deer i was looking for either)Fact is if you put any amount of time in and didn't have a ligament shot at a doe I highly doubt a couple more days during the holidays are going to help. On top of that I'd prefer not to see any shed bucks shot. I'd support earn a buck, or an antlerless only season before any type of holiday hunt, I know unfortunately neither of those 2 will end up being options, maybe it's time for you fellas to pull up your pants talk with more people and get some support for an antler restriction. Or better yet earn a buck or doe only for a year or 2 then 1 year with antler restrictions, then back to eab/antlerless. It truly is too bad that tool was abused by this state, it truly made some impressive deer and deer hunting, however way too many people are too closed minded to open their eyes on that one. Good luck eric

17923 The whole problem is the people who own the bedding areas are only hunting 1 day . They shoot their big buck & leave their land sit idle. People don't do drives anymore because you will push your deer to the neighbors. I have been hunting 40 years & years ago neighbors hunted together now they are enemies. I also think that the deer that are left are nocturnal. So why not allow on private property to hunt 24hrs. a day with the weapon of choice if you feel we need more deer shot. Or move gun deer hunting ahead & let it run 2 or 3 weeks straight. We do not need longer seasons. I also snowmobile & the holiday hunts affect trails to be closed . The landowners will deny the trails if they open during gun hunting. Snowmobiling brings in more income to area businesses than extra hunts. So either ban tower stand hunting , allow night hunting on private land only, or go to 3 day gun seasons like other states for the whole month of November. But absolutely no HOLIDAY HUNTS!!!!!! We allow predator hunting at night why not deer hunting on private property. Maybe then the people who hunt farmland could shoot the deer that are supposedly causing crop damage because the deer will come out & feed . The people with the bedding areas might think different if we allowed longer hunting hours because the deer will end up on the neighbors. With the lost of the family farms big farmers sell off non producing land & that is where the deer bed but at night they are eating the farmers crops because the bedding areas don't have the feed to sustain them.



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- 17924 The limitation or shortening of the Crossbow season based on buck harvest is not a viable reason to reduce the Crossbow season. If there is a belief that crossbows are taking too many bucks reducing availability to archery hunters, it might be considered to restrict crossbows from taking bucks for a short time but not reducing the season and limiting crossbows as a tool to achieve deer management goals. Keeping crossbow and archery seasons together and for longer seasons will encourage more hunting and provides a great tool for management of the herd. I personally believe the crossbow "bucks harvested" number is inflated as I don't see near as many bucks in the field as does or have opportunity to harvest the bucks as frequently as the does. On the group hunting topic, citing group hunting as dangerous, promoting illegal activity and those accusations, is just not true. It is more likely that "deer drives" may promote or cause concern but "group hunting" helps fill more tags and serves as a tool of herd management. Group hunting should not be removed, some consideration may be made for restricting "deer drives" for the reasons group hunting is being considered, but restricting "drives" would also be hard to define what is a "drive" and hard to enforce. Let's encourage new hunters to join in helping to keep the deer hunting tradition of Wisconsin going forward into the future. Too many regulations, license fees, additional tag and stamp fees, complicate and discourage hunting.
- 17925 should shut down the harvest of all doe or close the whole deer season for a couple years to bring back the deer i hunt in a couple different countys and the deer population is real bad. ever since you gave out way too many tags. and had earn a buck. My parents live on a farm and we don't see many deer anymore at all and we havent hunted on the farm in years. its hard when you see them get hit by cars and plus they are hunted. seen 2 deer the past year hit by cars alone by my parents farm and only have 4 deer in the area that stay they whole year so now maybe have 2. There is not as many deer out there anymore i love to hunt them but i do NOT want to see all the deer dissaper either. i been hunting since i was a kid but had to take off a few years because of my back i was unable to hunt. but now i go back out hunting the past 3 or 4 years and havent seen hardly any deer anymore. Something needs to be done to bring the herd back.
- 17926 Going from shotgun to rifle in Winnebago county was a mistake! There are fewer deer then what is reported. Go recount and tell the truth. Way Way Way to many Ag tags! Own 80 acres seen 2 family units only one had 2 fawns. 5 different bucks durning rut only one might of been a 3 yr old. Shots Are being fired year round on farm land and we know farmers are way to busy to just be shooting guns for fun. Stop the AG tags, farmers are being payed weather their crops make it or not! It's called double dipping! When the deer are on my land, they are my deer. When they move off my land and go to the neighbors, they are my neighbors deer. This is where the deer sleep and eat! Why should we pay to harvest our own animals. Thats what we pay property taxes for hunting land!
- 17927 We don't need a Holiday hunt in addition to the ~4+ weeks of gun season (youth hunt/gun/muzzle loader/doe only weekend) we already have. Having a Holiday hung only promotes people to feed in the late season in order to harvest a deer with the bow as the deer are cagy and nocturnal with all the gun hunting. In my opinion, there are already too many of these "special" gun hunts and is ruining the quality of deer hunting for the archery hunters. This also becomes a safety issue as you are confusing all the hunters with all these "special" hunts and will get many hunters out there not wearing orange when they are supposed to due to the confusion of all the different seasons.
- 17928 Hello, As an avid archery hunter, I feel that there are already too many of these special gun hunts which ultimately hurts the quality of deer hunting for us archery hunters. There are 4+ weeks of various gun seasons (youth/gun/muzzle loader/doe-only), so we do not need to have an additional Holiday Hunt. This hunt is not needed for deer-control or to accomplish herd-management goals, therefore, it feels like it's just over-complicating the deer season. Please consider removing this from the scope of the season. Thank you!
- 17929 I live in the Town of Winneconne. We have at least 100 deer per square mile in my private land area. Crop damage, over-browsing of forests, and domestic foliage damage is very high, as is vehicle/deer collisions. I also fear disease spread in this high pop area. We need to reduce deer numbers here. Public land is a whole different beast...deer populations are moderate to low, and don't need reduction.



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- 17930 Saw about the same number of deer as last year. Just enough to keep me hunting. Not to many! With out baiting, I would never get a deer, TO OLD NOW. And for those of you who oppose it, don't do it! And for those who think the DNR is right by saying baiting is unsportsmen like. There is nothing sportsmen like, setting up a tree with a gun in your hand! Deer don't shoot back.
- 17931 I commend our local people for working to at least maintain population. I would like to see an increase of a modest amount. We need to contain hunting to the hunting season and not make it a free for all. People need to live by some rules and cannot shoot every deer they see.
- 17932 Worst deer season I have ever been involved in. 12 hunters on 220 acres only 4 bucks and less than 20 does seen though out rifle and muzzleloader seasons. This is on what historical has been fantastic property.
- 17933 I would like too see a harvest of one buck and one doe by weapon of choice per season. Do not need a separate muzzle loader season use weapon of choice during gun season.gun, bow or muzzle loader.
- 17934 If you have a holiday hunt you should extend the archery season. Like was stated if you carry one motion as a feeler why didn't you also carry the other that should go hand in hand?
- 17935 Concern is there for the unit to grow if not enough deer are harvested. Think many people are not reporting their kill or finding opportunity without a license.
- 17936 Would like to see expanded opportunities for hunters to hunt on private land of those that receive crop damage tags.
- 17937 Please do not run a holiday hunt If you feel that you need another hunt move it up before snowmobile season
- 18083



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Wood, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

53 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 33
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
I hunt in this unit: 46
General interest in this unit: 8

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 42
Bow: 23
Crossbow: 21
Muzzleloader: 18

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 2
Average: 25.33
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 27
Mostly Private Land: 11
Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
Mostly Public Land: 3
Exclusively Public Land: 2
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 1

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 2
Not too crowded: 3
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
Somewhat crowded: 3
Very crowded: 4
Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 8
Fewer: 12
Same: 19
More: 12
Many More: 2
Unsure: 0

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	2	8	20	12	11	0



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	2	5	17	14	15	0
Bonus Tags - Public land:	5	10	13	14	8	3
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	7	32	14	0
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	11	37	5
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	24	26	3
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	7	41	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...		<i>VALID</i>	<i>NOT VALID</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	Not applicable in this DMU		

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.32
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.72
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.38
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.51
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.25
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.34
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.21
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.23
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.30
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	2.85
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.28



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Wood, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

17938 I believe I have written to you in the past and I wanted to reiterate that I believe the deer herd in my area is too low. We should be attempting to at a minimum maintain the herd if not attempting to increase the herd. Some of the things I have noticed in the past five years have been drastically declining deer numbers. Maybe it is predation or the winters or maybe it is the four deer people get to shoot a year. You have to admit there are more people in this country than ever before. That means more cars on the road to hit deer, more hunters in the woods, more people per section hunting. If there are only 30 deer in a section and you allow everyone to shoot four deer in a year when there are probably close to two guys per 40 acres in a section how many deer will be left. I understand there are areas of the county that may have too many deer in them and there may be a need of ag tags being issued. That's fine and I agree as long as anyone in the public can use them. I hunted four days of gun deer season and all ten days of muzzleloader season and did not see a single deer. Our property was recently logged and the young red maple, white pine, and oak haven't been browsed at all this past winter. I even have several eastern hemlock planted in the woods that haven't been touched all winter. I looked this spring for deer beds or tracks and I'm lucky if I can find a single set. issue one doe tag and two buck tags. Holiday hunts should be outlawed. If people think there are too many deer get some ag tags. In the end my position is never to have holiday hunts, increase the deer herd, or at a minimum maintain. I also believe all open lands to public should be looked at as public land. If it's in MFL open it's public land regulated by the same public land laws. Otherwise people abuse the deer herd until it's non existent. You are there to keep the deer herd in the publics interest not to play dictator. Listen to us! You may have the farmer, insurance guy, Forester, and transportation guy who all have agendas based on their professions. All of the professions want less deer to benefit thier stakeholder group. The people own the deer not the DNR.

17939 I have hunted this area for decades in the townships of Rock and Cary. Deer numbers have dramatically declined especially over the last five years. I hunted six parcels of private land and two of public land in 2018 for five days averaging about 8-9 hours per day. I saw three deer on the opening Saturday and did not see a single deer over the next four days. Hunting pressure may have been somewhat lower than in previous years. I am an excellent deer hunter having shot at least 100 whitetails in WI and two other states during my 59 years of hunting. Nephews have access to hunting north of highway 10 and saw very high numbers of deer and successfully harvested deer north of 10. In my opinion the proposed antlerless harvest for Wood county applies very well given the deer numbers north of highway 10 but not south of 10 especially west of highway 13 where cropland has greatly declined. I hope consideration given to making the townships of Rock, Cary and others south of 10 to removing them from the "central farmland" zone. I also suspect that significant numbers of deer that are harvested are never registered. With no shining in Cary Township because of poaching why would deer harvested by such individuals be registered. Thank you for consideration of these comments.

17940 There has been a significant increase in the number of white deer in this area over the last 4-5 years. Several hunters have seen multiple white deer at the same time. The number and area that these deer are being seen is getting larger and wider. Because we are not allowed to hunt these deer, the concern we are having is that, in time, we will see fewer and fewer regular deer and more and more white deer. This is a real concern and needs to be addressed now, before the white deer outnumber the regular deer because of a man-made, competitive advantage. There is really no good genetic reason that these deer need protection. They are no longer "rare" in this part of our State, and the concern for the long-term health of the herd and the future of hunting needs to take priority over the arbitrary and capricious aesthetic of white deer. If the DNR's mission is to protect the future of hunting and the integrity of deer hunting, this needs to be addressed now.



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- 17941 I own land and deer hunt in 57B in Wood County in the Lindsey area, and the last several years the number of deer I see is almost zero. I did not see a single deer opening day of rifle season last year and only 1 deer on Sunday while hunting all day both days. Also I Hunted early mornings and late afternoon most every day the remainder of the season and saw hardly any deer and heard very few shots during the season. I think it is a mismanagement of the deer herd to classify this zone as an agricultural zone and give out additional antlerless tags, it should end. Also I think by allowing people to register deer online leads to people harvesting multiple deer without bothering to register them. This DMA is heavily bow hunted and many deer are harvested as well. Driving around spring, summer and fall the number of deer sighted is way down from years gone by. Too many deer killed in this zone...
- 17942 A farmer that is located near me continues to get a crop damage permit almost every year continues to get a crop damage permit. He continues to kill 50 to 60 deer a year in the fall of the year before the gun deer season. He shoots the adults but does not shoot the fawn. He will not let others hunt on his property. Instead of having this same guy kill all the deer, why don't you offer the permits to others in the area? give this guy a permit to only kill 10 deer and then offer others in his immediate area (3 mile radius) more permits? I own the land that I hunt on and pay my taxes as well, but do not get to enjoy the season.
- 17943 Like a lot of hunting units, deer have moved into the backyards of homeowners, and closer to the city, less deer out in the country, a problem for rifle hunters but not so much for bow hunters. As far as CWD, far more is caused by food plots, and farmers leaving corn or other crops out for deer to eat. As far as a hunter with a small amount of corn or other feed to attract a few deer is not really a problem causing CWD. There is no study that would support deer getting CWD from a hunter using corn or other small amounts of feed to attract a few deer to his stand. It's a big money getter for the DNR, and we know it. Thank You
- 17944 The Wood CDAC seems inconsistent with ratio between antlerless quota and tags available between the two zones within Wood county. Forest zone quota is 750 with 2025 tags available Farmland zone quota is 2000 with 1000 tags available It's nearly a complete reverse ratio. The Farmland must be in error because you can't harvest 2000 deer with 1000 tags. Whatever the final available antlerless bonus tags are available I'd like to see a more even split of available tags between Public and Private.
- 17945 Your rules enable one crazy neighbor with a small piece land to buy many tags and kill every doe they see. The rest of us who own land and manage our herd are reluctant to shoot one because our neighbor thinks he needs to fill his freezer. It is completely unfair, and it happens all over the state. Stop them at one tag and raise the price so the deer herd isn't responsible for filling their freezer!!!
- 17946 I see many deer. But I hunt on public pinned between all private land...your only going to give 30 public tags and 970 private...makes no sense at all..maybe try like 700 and 300..come on ..give us public land hunters some meat to..I have been hunting public land for over 20 years...no difference between public and private in this dmu..thanks for letting me voice my opinion
- 17947 After 2010 season and two rough winter's with extensive winter kill the herd has not recovered cost to what it was. 2010 and prior it was not uncommon for our group to see 3-10 deer per person. The last several seasons it has been more common for only one person to see one or two a day during opening weekend on the same land
- 17948 Deer population in this unit seems to continually keep growing even with the predator population that is also growing. Wolves and coyotes are increasing and even now are becoming a major concern of the landowners (agriculture people) of the area. Also, a quite a few reports of pet attacks.
- 17949 You have not listened to us for years on not wanting antlerless permits and now you increase the numbers solely what appears to be a beginning of regaining of a semblance of a former population. I can not believe those on the CDAC board are so short sighted in their views.
- 17950 I would like to the deer unit boundaries be more clear in reading them. I suggest going to county boundaries to make it easier for all.... hunters and law enforcement.



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- 17951 I believe Wisconsin in general should implement an antler restriction program like a lot of other states, other than maybe for first year hunters.
- 17952 Area south of USH 10 SHOULD NOT be included/considered Central Farmland area. Too heavily forested/marshy.....too few deer
- 17953 If your goal for this unit is to maintain the herd, why would you propose selling 1000 bonus antlerless permits?
- 17954 go back to the doe or buck but only one or the other for rifle bow and crossbow one for each of them
- 17955 I do not want to see the crossbow season shortened. They should be on an equal plane as compounds
- 17956 Harvest of white deer should be considered for approval
- 17957 Let's look at the white deer population in this area.
- 17958 Would like to see the herd grow a little more.
- 18084



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Wood, Central Forest

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67 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form? (Check all that apply)

I live in this unit: 32
I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 13
I hunt in this unit: 63
General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 2 to 5) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

2. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do? (Check all that apply)

Gun: 62
Bow: 44
Crossbow: 16
Muzzleloader: 18

3. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?

Minimum: 1
Average: 24.84
Maximum: 60

4. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?

Exclusively Private Land: 23
Mostly Private Land: 9
Public and Private Land About Equally: 14
Mostly Public Land: 5
Exclusively Public Land: 12
I did not hunt in this unit last year: 0

5. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Not at all Crowded: 1
Not too crowded: 10
Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 12
Somewhat crowded: 8
Very crowded: 8
Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2017, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2016)?

Many Fewer: 7
Fewer: 13
Same: 24
More: 15
Many More: 7
Unsure: 1

Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

7. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2018 season in this unit?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Antlerless Quota:	5	9	17	9	26	1



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Section 3 (continued): Feedback on the CDAC's 2018 preliminary recommendations

8. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of \$12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2018 season?

	<i>Much Too Low</i>	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Much Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Bonus Tags - Private Land:	5	3	19	9	29	2
Bonus Tags - Public land:	8	10	22	8	12	7
Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:	Not applicable in this DMU					
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:						

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2018 season in this unit? *Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

	<i>Too low</i>	<i>About Right</i>	<i>Too High</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			
Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:	Not applicable in this DMU			

10. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional season framework options.

		<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
If a DMU is in a Farmland Zone...	Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :	Not applicable in this DMU		
If a Holiday Hunt is held in a Farmland unit...	EXTEND the ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON to Jan 31, 2019:	Not applicable in this DMU		
If the Population Objective is not "Increase"...	Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:	6	56	5
If a Zero Quota is adopted...	...should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?	31	26	10

11. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

	<i>Average Rating</i>
Amount of deer mortality during an average year...	2.40
Amount of damage to backyard plants...	1.82
The number of deer-vehicle collisions...	2.18
Potential risks to deer health (e.g., CWD)...	2.42
Having a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...	3.28
Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...	3.06
Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...	2.23
Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...	2.29
Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...	2.34
Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...	3.63
Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...	2.34



Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2018

Comments for Wood, Central Forest

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- 17959 Within the Forest Zone in Wood cty as you approach the area from Hwy 54 going south the number of deer seen drops dramatically when compared to the deer seen in the area from Hwy 73 south to Hwy 54. Using Hwy 80 as the eastern edge of this land mass and proceeding westerly to the Wood Cty line using Hwy 54 as the south edge and Hwy 73 as the north edge of the land mass there is a significant overpopulation of antlerless deer. The towns of Cary, Hiles, Wood and Dexter are mostly private lands with good to excellent feed for the herd. The easy winters of the past 2 years have allowed the herd to rapidly increase despite the local predation problems. I feel the herd will indeed explode this year. Potentially 3 out of 4 adult does will be from 2 to 4 years old this year. That would suggest two thirds of the doe herd would be capable of twin births this spring. In much of this area a deer need only walk less than 1 - 1 1/2 miles for feeding on farm fields or cranberry beds. The property owners in this area are witnessing extensive damage to the agricultural and the forested lands they own with minimal opportunity to address the problem.
- 17960 If you want more young people hunting, have more junior antlerless permits awarded to young people. Have the young people shoot the does - we need more young people to get into hunting and the fastest way for that to happen is for the young people to have success hunting. Having said that, I think 2000 doe tags are way too many unless you are trying to shrink the herd in Wood County Central Forest. I have hunted our place for 35 years (far western Wood County) - there are far fewer deer now than there were 35 years ago. We need to support deer numbers - the introduction of the wolf has impacted those numbers - how much I don't know - but there are fewer deer over the past 10-15 years than there were a long time ago. I will say that the introduction of the wolf has enhanced the health and vitality of the deer - meaning they are bigger/faster than I recall in the past. I think the wolf has sharpened the genetics over time - meaning the lesser deer are getting eaten - but that is nature. Bottom line - let the younger people shoot the does!
- 17961 During the 50 years I have hunted Wood County the number of deer have gone from a moderate level to higher level and than back down to a level where seeing a deer was a treat. In my opinion the cause for this was too many bonus tags and the wolves. The wolves have reduced the deer herd so drastically that we see more wolf prints in the mud/snow than we see deer tracks. I know that with the wolves back on the protected list there isn't anything that the Wisconsin DNR can do about the over population of wolves, but it is a concern that should be considered when establishing antlerless tags. Every year we see fewer and fewer hunters in our area and I'm sure the reason for that is the very low deer population. No body likes to hunt an area where you are lucky to see 1 or 2 deer, where 8 to 10 years ago you would 30 to 40 deer in 5 to 6 days of hunting. In my opinion there should be No antlerless tags in Wood County Thank you for reading my comments.
- 17962 As a farmer, land owner and hunter in the central forest zone and having land on the border of hwy 73, we are seeing an expanding deer herd that is beginning to rival those years prior to the bad winters of 13 and 14. Many landowners between Wis Rapids and clark county on the south side of 73 are in need of doe tags to keep the deer populations from overbrowsing both the natural habitat and farming operations. west of pittsville is crazy with deer. the best thing would be to lower the management unit to hwy 54 to city point and then north. until that happens, the landowners must have tags in order to maintain a health deer herd as well as the forest and farm lands. please vote to keep it at 2000 permits for the central forest in wood county. thank you!!!!



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- 17963 There are far too many deer in the central forest unit especially between highway 73 and highway 54 between my summer scouting and hunting season scouting I would on average see 320-330 deer a night in a 4 square mile area with the most being 452 deer and the very fewest being 113 on average the buck to doe ratio was 1:17 the deer in this area are out of control and this is only 4 square mile area where I hunt I have a 1/4 food plot and on an average night there are 30-35 deer on this little plot the woods is completely stripped of any browse and natural forage there is already a problem and it needs to be addressed 2000 bonus tags won't be nearly enough to reign in this deer population I would recommend at the very least 4000 tags for private lands
- 17964 First, I want to tell you that our property is slightly less than 300 acres. Last year, we captured pictures of over 40 DIFFERENT doe and fawn on our trail cameras. Additionally, we practice deer management (no immature doe and no bucks less than 8 points can be shot). This means that, because we could not get ANY doe tags for our zone for the last two years, your regulations effectively CANCELLED our deer season for two years. So what is my point? There are plenty of deer EVERYWHERE! Second, every single hunter who buys a tag should get at least one hunter's choice tag. If you believe there are excessive deer in some zones, then make bonus tags available.
- 17965 Deer numbers are high in the private land in the Central Forest so the increased doe tags is a good plan here. The number of deer are also increasing on the public lands, but not to the same degree as private. A few more doe tags could be given here too, but not absolutely necessary. I would definitely consider increasing doe tags on the public lands if we continue with warm winters. With CWD not too far away from Wood county keeping deer numbers lower or at least in check is very important. Also if given the option with the concerns of CWD and its spread I also believe it is best to keep baiting and feeding banned in Wood County.
- 17966 I am happy to see that you are raising the quota on doe kill. I am definitely seeing more deer does over the last couple of years. As far as the doe only, no bucks, would rather if you are a private landowner, I am, let the landowner harvest a buck or a doe, his/her choice. Responsible landowners are not going to shoot everything he see's and I believe will manage his property for the health of the herd. To me it seems, deer management in the past has swung from shoot way to many doe's and then swing the other way to no doe's and bucks only, and feel if your a private landowner let him/her manage the deer on his property.
- 17967 There are still low numbers of deer on public lands. I saw less than 12 deer during the 2017 season. Of those, only 2 fawns. I believe the fawns aren't making it because of predation. I see a lot of wolf sign where I hunt. This may not be the case everywhere though. I cover several miles every day I hunt and see few to none. I'm getting too old and I'm pissed! Do what you want on private land, let's get the deer numbers back on public lands! The old deer trails are disappearing under tall grass and brush. I think we need a wolf season again. Also, tired of hearing about people baiting on public land to see deer.
- 17968 I would like to see one simple bow hunting season and one gun hunting season. Since the start of all the doe hunts, youth hunts, muzzleloader season and all the other special hunting seasons the deer population has really suffered. when I first started hunting this unit I would see a fair amount of deer, but now I would be lucky to see one during gun hunting. We need one combined season for bows and crossbows, one for guns and muzzleloaders (muzzleloaders are guns), and do away with the youth hunt, doe hunts, holiday hunts, and all the other special seasons that are eradicating Wisconsin's deer herds.
- 17969 I think the number of antlerless tags is way too high. If you fill that many tags in one year there is no way the deer population would be "maintained". The population would decrease very fast. It probably wouldn't be too noticeable the first year but in the coming years you would notice a huge difference. After all, every antlerless deer shot is 2-3 less deer the next year. I think the number of tags should stay the same as they were in 2017. If increased, I believe you guys should at least make it a reasonable amount, as once the deer are gone they do not come back right away... make slow adjustments.



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- 17970 Would like to see the group hunting laws change, if your tag is full you should not have a gun. Also am concerned with the large groups driving deer with bows, I border public land where these drives occur and have found several dead deer from poor shooting and more than one wounded only to slowly die of infection. Nothing sadder than watching a nice mature buck slowly waste away with a broken arrow in his hip. Seems to me hunter ethics would come into play but not everybody has ethics, that's why we need laws. Thank you
- 17971 My belief is that there is an adequate population on private land to allow the use of a free antlerless tag that comes with a license in like Ag areas. The Private landowner is managing on their land and will harvest what they believe is available or should be harvested. Others might not consider that at all but issuing tags will not change much on their property. The Public Land is improving but not as fast as i thought it would. I think the permit quantity could be 50% higher which is still not many tags.
- 17972 We need to eliminate white deer. They are taking over the population at an alarming rate. It's out of control and you/the state let it go unchecked for far to long. It's going to be hard to reverse the genetic makeup of our population. My future and my kids future of hunting here is not looking good due to the protection of these white deer. Why is the state protecting these white deer? Please answer this at the meeting. Don't let outside anti hunting groups affect what needs to happen. Please!
- 17973 I hunt on about 300 acres of private land surrounded by hundreds of acres of other private land owners and the 2017 season was less the successful. There is a pack of wolves on or near the property and our deer numbers have dropped dramatically. From 2016-2017 hunting for 40 hours in a stand I saw 2 bucks. I see more wolves and wolf kills than I see bucks when hunting. Without any sort of predator management I don't think there should be any antlerless tags available for this unit.
- 17974 I bought private land in wood central forest and have 3 kids that are 10,11,&12 that I want them to see deer when they go out hunting to keep their interest. We only eat 2-3 deer per year so if they don't get a chance at shooting a buck I want them stil to have the opportunity to shoot a doe. In the 4 years of owning our land we hunted a lot more in 2017. It was our worst gun season for seeing deer.
- 17975 The CDAC Board appears to never listen to the public for years we have come and said we do not want antlerless tags issued. The only reason the deer population has come back somewhat is 3 good winter seasons. The actions for the board could again destroy the herd numbers which will take years to regain especially if we have a bad winter. DO NOT ISSUE THESE TAG!!! can I make it any clearer????
- 17976 Considering the DNR won't move the boundary line separating Forest & Farmland I support the increase in antlerless tag availability in the Forest zone. I would like to see a more even split of available tags between Private(2000) and Public(25). I think 1300 private and 725 public would be reasonable.
- 17977 The deer hunting gets worse every year the deer numbers are way to low,im also tired of the youth getting antlerless tags for several years while no one else can .youth should get doe tags their first year and that's it.i think the cdac needs to be shut down they couldn't manage a 10 acre deer farm
- 17978 Either have 1000 bonus tags available for sale for public land or have zero. The preliminary number of 25 causes people to stand in line for hours. You have to be the first person in line or you have no chance at getting one. This is not how to conduct business with today's technology.
- 17979 Why in the world would you let youth hunters shoot antlerless deer in a bucks only or very few antlerless tags zone. If there is not that many deer in this zone. Hunters brought different youths in every day and kept shooting the does that were here. It doesn't make sense to me
- 17980 Way to many antlerless deer in this area all natural browse in the forests are being completely destroyed not mention crop damage to every farm in the area by these deer 5000 tags should be given out to reduce numbers then after they have been thinned drop it to maintain



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- 17981 Re-enstate the annual wolf hunt. I support our state DNR can manage this. It's time for our state stand our as a true advocate for ethical stewards of our eco system and has the knowledge to educate the general public.
- 17982 I do not see the deer like I use to. I enjoyed seeing deer. The wolves have killed them. I think there should not be antlerless permits until the deer numbers come up to when I enjoyed seeing deer outside.
- 17983 Going from 152 antlerless tags in 2017 to 2025 antlerless tags in 2018 way to much of an increase don't think there's that many deer in the whole unit not seeing that many to increase to that number of tags
- 17984 2000 tags is way too many for this zone. The deer herd has only slightly increased over the past 5 yrs. 250-500 tags would be a more realistic number based on the deer herd I've seen in the area
- 17985 We have to many deer on private land but are unable to do anything about it because of lack of antlerless tags. Waited a hour online last year for antlerless tag to find that they were sold out.
- 17986 since the change in permit structure, I have been unable to obtain any antlerless permits for any bow or gun season. With that in mind, I see it unwise to have a large number of bonus tags
- 17987 I believe that the amount of farm acreage south of hwy 73 warrant changing the boundary from hwy 73 to hwy 54 where there is a considerable lower percentage of farm acreage.
- 17988 The deer are just starting to come back after all the \$2 tags that were given out before. Let the population grow some more.
- 17989 I think the logging on county land is going very well. I thank the county forester and support staff for their work!
- 17990 Never allow taking of antlerless deer, or white deer. Keep it bucks only as there isn't enough deer.
- 17991 I saw way too many doe opening weekend of rifle season this past year. 30 opening day.
- 17992 The number of deer in this DMU is way to LOW on public hunting land !
- 17993 your's is a tough job Good Luck!!!
- 18085